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The Magazine of Self Reliance

GUIDE

JULY 1991 VOLUME 13 NUMBER 7

COVER:

The Gilbert Equipment Company USAS-12 gas operated 12 gauge shotgun is now available to the public in semiautomatic-only firing mode. Select-fire versions are sold to military and law enforcement. See page 24 (photo by Scott Stoddard).

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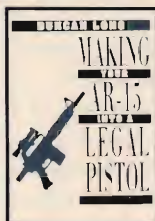
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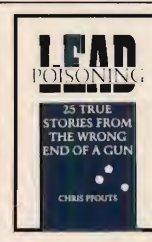
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JAMES Madison, writing in *The Federalist Papers* (No. 46), referred to "the advantage of being armed, which the Americans possess over the people of almost every other nation . . . Notwithstanding the military establishments in the several kingdoms of Europe, which are carried as far as the public resources will bear, the governments are afraid to trust the

TO THE POINT

How the clever manipulators in the elitist-socialist-dominated mass media create anti-gun public opinion . . .



people with arms."

Millions of otherwise reasonable Americans have been influenced by the immensely powerful and ubiquitous anti-gun-ownership propaganda campaign waged every day in our mass media—a media dominated for many years now by an arrogant, elitist old boy network of left-wingers who are adamant in their desire to disarm the American people. In almost total control of the nation's largest news and entertainment organizations, the mass media calls the tune and the politicians dance to it. The result: anti-firearms legislation like the Brady Bill and President Bush's Comprehensive Violent Crime Control Act.

Let's take a look at how the media elite and their cronies in government and academia are getting away with ramming all this "gun control" down our throats. Here are a few examples of their powerful propaganda which influences gullible Americans.

In a recent episode of the new NBC television program, *Expose*, moderated by the great Tom Brokaw, correspondent Noah Nelson and his crew go undercover to try to trick an off-duty cop in Florida into selling a semiautomatic Uzi carbine to an NBC sound man of hispanic origin who claims to the cop that he once fired an Uzi "in Colombia." Tipped off he was being taped, the cop refused to participate. It would have been a legal sale in any event under Florida law, but the intent

was to show that police are selling guns to drug dealers from Colombia.

The show detailed "just how easy it is to get a gun" in Florida by purchasing them at Florida gun shows. Guns from all over the south are turning up in criminal hands in New York, a detective says (those evil southerners, you know). The TV crew follows New York police as they follow and arrest a man running guns from Florida to New York for sale to "drug dealers and numbers runners" in New York City. The implication is that no one should be allowed to make a private party sale of a gun — a longtime legal practice recently outlawed in California but being ignored by many gun owners.

The *Expose* crew purchased one of those horrible and dreadful AK-47 assault rifles at a Florida gun show. At the end of the episode, Tom Brokaw appears with the gun, complete with inserted 30-round magazine and sheathed bayonet attached to the muzzle and says: "Here it is—the Chinese-made AK-47 semiautomatic assault rifle that we bought for \$450. This is the same kind of weapon use to massacre school children in Stockton, California, in 1989, and we're turning this one over to the New York City police for them to destroy."

My God! Those valiant and righteous NBC crusaders have no doubt saved lives by purchasing a horrible weapon from those crazy Florida gun mongers and turning it in for destruc-

tion. God Bless them!

Then there's the great Wayne King of *The New York Times* doing his marvelous puff piece on Handgun Control Incorporated's Sarah and James Brady and their "Target: The Gun Lobby." In this piece in the December 9, 1990 *The New York Times Magazine*, King describes how he "walked into a gun show in the convention center in Jackson, Miss. (those horrible southerners again!), to find out as a *Times* reporter just how easy it was to buy a semi-automatic Mac (MAC-10 9 mm)." He bought one "no questions asked," for \$600, along with a conversion kit to make it fully automatic for \$29.95 and, for \$90, "the guts of a silencer to fit the weapon"—all perfectly legal, so long as the conversions aren't made without the required permits. But Wayne King is self-righteously horrified and indignant. Needless to say, he also turns this murderous would-be machine gun over to a federal BATF agent in Jackson, then carries on in his article about "America's fascination with firearms. . ."

Then there's the arrogant leftist Bill Press, and ABC television and radio commentator here in Los Angeles. You'll be hard pressed to find a man with a more rabid opposition to gun ownership. Outraged at the mass disobedience of California's infamous Assault Weapons Control Act, Press demands that "drug dealers" be let out of prisons to make room for citizens who didn't register their assault weapons. Declaring on a radio talk show that no one should be allowed to own any type of gun, Press questions why anyone needs to own an assault rifle. He cuts off and belittles callers on his program who disagree with his extremist views on gun control. "Get with it!" he tells one such caller, hanging up on him.

These examples are typical of the media mentality about firearms ownership in this country. This country badly needs public education about the media, and much greater public scrutiny of the media, the people who control it and how it operates — *Jim Benson*.

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SURVIVAL LINE

*'Seismic danger zone' in Pacific Northwest,
lead crystal glass contamination of acidic liquids,
food poisoning prevention . . .*

MUCH of the Pacific Northwest has long been thought of as relatively immune to the dangers posed by earthquakes.

"People have often reacted that it's wild nonsense to think an earthquake could happen here," said seismic geologist Ian P. Madin. That reaction might soon disappear, however, as a result of a new study just published in the journal *Science*.

The study was done by two U.S. Geological Survey geologists, James Savage and Michael Lisowski. They concluded that the Pacific Northwest, from Vancouver, British Columbia, to Mendocino, California, is the site of a "seismic danger zone," which could produce one of the strongest earthquakes ever to strike the U.S. "We now realize that the most dangerous fault in the United States lies off the Pacific Northwest," said seismologist Dr. Thomas Heaton of the USGS.

Using eight years of research data and measurements, the two geologists found that the Pacific coastline was rising and that the mountains along the Olympic Peninsula of Washington were being squeezed together. These changes are occurring because of the movement of a geologic plate on the Pacific floor which is pushing under the giant North American plate.

According to the study, the stresses caused by the advancing Pacific plate are now so high that they could cause an earthquake measuring up to 9.5 on the Richter scale. Such a quake would be short, perhaps up to three minutes in duration, but incredibly destructive. Coastal areas could drop as much as six feet. This sudden drop would in turn generate huge ocean waves along the fault line which could devastate coastal cities. The study suggests that the quake would be so intense that it would cause the collapse of most buildings in cities like Portland, Oregon. There might also be a number of years or decades during which a number of 8.0 earthquakes could strike the region instead of one large 9.5 quake, according to the study. The study did not

predict when such a quake or quakes could occur, but noted that the last such massive quakes in the region occurred some 300 years ago. Data seem to indicate that such quakes strike the area roughly every 400 to 500 years.

Lead Crystal Poisoning — A new study published in the British medical journal *Lancet* by two physicians working at Columbia University in New York has shown that acidic liquids placed in lead crystal glasses and decanters can very quickly become contaminated with high levels of lead.

Lead has been found to be a chronic health hazard with the potential for damage to the human nervous system, kidneys and bone marrow. It is particularly damaging to fetuses and young children. (See "Lead Poisoning" in the October 1989 issue of ASG)

As a result of the study, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has issued the following recommendations for the use of lead crystal containers: Do not use lead crystal every day. If for instance you have a daily glass of wine with dinner, don't use crystal. Don't store foods or beverages in lead crystal containers for any length of time. Some experts draw the line at a week or two, others say no longer than overnight. Women of child bearing age or who are pregnant should avoid using lead crystal at all. Do not use decorative crystal baby bottles to feed infants.

Food Poisoning Prevention — The U.S. Department of Agriculture has just published a new pamphlet on the prevention of food poisoning. Entitled, "A Quick Consumer Guide to Safe Food Handling," the pamphlet provides useful safety tips on all aspects of food handling, from shopping and preparing to storing and reheating.

The pamphlet is free and can be obtained by writing to: Safe Food, Consumer Information Center, 574-X, Pueblo, CO 81009. ●

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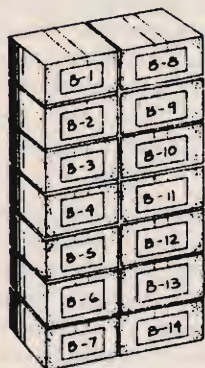
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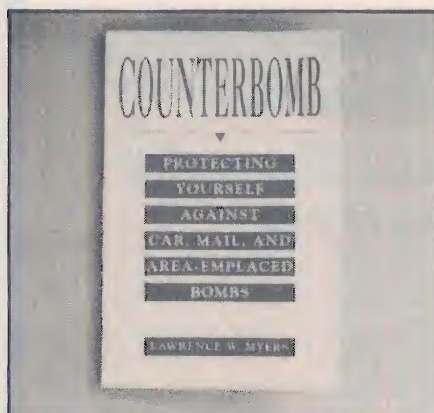
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Counterbomb, Protecting Yourself against Car, Mail, and Area-Emplaced Bombs, by Lawrence W. Myers. Paladin Press, P.O. Box 1307, Dept. ASG, Boulder, CO 80306; (303) 443-7250. Softcover, 96 pages. \$14 plus \$3.50 S&H.

Author Lawrence W. Myers has assembled a realistic, highly effective approach to addressing the three most common methods of assassination by explosives — vehicle, mail, and area-emplaced bombs. From 1983 to 1988,

the use of IEDs (improvised explosive devices) as murder weapons in the United States increased more than 430 percent. Regardless of your profession or position in life, it is a real possibility that you could become the target of a bomb placed by terrorist or criminal elements currently operating with impunity within our borders and abroad. Myers proposes a merciless, controversial tactic to use against those who attempt to utilize explosives for murder and terror: specially rigged (but easy-to-obtain) security devices that detonate the IED in the hands of the bomber, killing him. He stresses other deterrents that, while not as extreme, are also highly effective. By implementing the canny countersurveillance techniques described herein, the lines become blurred between killer and victim, stalker and stalked. The object is to plant a seed of doubt in the minds of terrorists and criminals as to whether they have become the target in this deadly dance.



Combat Rifles of the 21st Century, Futuristic Firearms for Tomorrow's Battlefields, by Duncan Long. Paladin Press, Dept. ASG, P.O. Box 1307, Boulder, CO 80306; (303) 443-7250. Softcover, 88 pages. \$15 plus \$3.50 shipping.

Today's assault rifles are soon to be made obsolete by a new breed of super-lethal combat firearm currently being produced for the U.S. Armed Forces. Utilizing revolutionary components and firing exotic new ammo, these weapons will make tomorrow's infantryman much more deadly than today's soldier. The best futuristic designs from Colt, H&K, Steyr, AAI and others have been evaluated and the finalists pitted

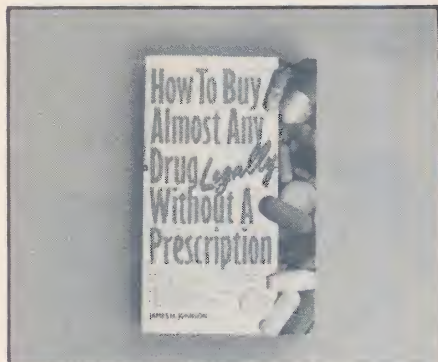
against each other in exhaustive tests on the state-of-the-art computerized firing range. Duncan Long reveals the capabilities and shortcomings of each rifle's internal and external features, field performance, accuracy, lethality and more. He also examines the astonishing accessories being developed, from superaccurate aiming systems to space-age helmet shields that display battlefield conditions. Rarely seen photos and illustrations of prototypes and final rifle designs highlight the text.



Backpacking Basics, by Thomas Winnett with Melanie Findling. NITRO-PAK Home Preparedness Center, 13243 E. Rosecrans Ave., Dept. ASG,

Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670; (213) 802-0099. Softcover, 135 pages. \$8.95 plus \$3 shipping.

Are you ready to take a little vacation in the wilderness in style? This book tells all you need to know for a comfortable, safe and utterly enjoyable backpacking trip. First, it shows you how to save money buying equipment and food and how to get the most use out of what you buy. It helps you plan that first trip; when and where to go, how to get in shape, how much you can comfortably carry, what to take along and how to pack it. It shows you the easy way to walk, and how often to rest. Learn how to set up a simple, comfortable, warm, dry camp in the wilderness. One chapter shows you how to eat well in the wilds with a minimum of slaving over a hot campfire. The book also tells how to make sure your child enjoys the trip. Contains important survival skills including map and compass, river crossings, bad weather, and getting lost.



How To Buy Almost Any Drug Legally Without a Prescription, by James H. Johnson. High Country Enterprise, P.O. Box 746, Dept. ASG, Saguache, CO 81149; (719) 655-2432. Softcover, 340 pages. \$4.95 plus \$3 shipping.

Concerned about the staggering high cost of hard-to-get prescription medication? This book tells you: How and where to buy drugs overseas, in person, by mail, or even by telephone — at a fraction of the U.S. cost. Learn the complete, current and correct information on Mexican pharmaceuticals — quality, price, availability. The book includes sample forms required by customs, prices and shipping charges in U.S. dollars, and a full listing of suppliers and foreign pharmacies, plus fax numbers when available. ●



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Emergency Flag

If you commute to work, or if you plan to take a long haul trip across the nation, this little red emergency flag will call for help if you become stranded on the interstate or on a lonely highway. It stuffs down into a small package that fits in glove compartment or purse. Unfolds to reveal large white lettering on bright red background. Place top of flag through a crack in the window, then roll the window up tight to display flag. \$5.95 postpaid. Berk International. P.O. Box 5294, Dept. ASG, Garden Grove, CA 92645; (714) 898-8648.



Benchmade Monarch-SST Knives

Benchmade Knife Company has achieved a breakthrough by offering a new moderately priced modern style linerlock folder named the Monarch-SST. The folder incorporates all the

critical features of the best modern custom linerlock knives including easy one-handed opening and closing, low friction bearing bushings, ball bearing detent closure, a strong dependable linerlock, and more blade in less handle than typical folders. Blade length is 3.2 inches and is available with optional SpyderEdge on 50 percent of the blade. Steel is Sandvik 12C27 high carbon stainless. Handle is made of tough injected molded fiber filled nylon called Zytel. Weight is a miniscule 2.3 ounces. \$49.95. Benchmade Knife Company, 15875-G SE 114th Street, Dept. ASG, Clackamas, OR 97015; (503) 655-6004.



U.S. Cavalry Catalog

Check out the latest in military gear and adventure supplies contained in U.S. Cavalry's 1991 catalog. The 116 page, full color catalog is crammed with hard-to-find gear that survivalists, military, and law enforcement personnel can appreciate. Of special interest is the new Gore-Tex lightweight, reversible Day/Night Desert suit. To obtain a catalog send \$3 to: U.S. Cavalry, 2855 Centennial Ave. Dept. ASG, Radcliff, KY 40160-9000; (800) 777-7732.



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The Pulsar 2000 is an advanced

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BodyGuard Pepper Spray

BodyGuard is an instantly effective, non lethal self defense deterrent spray

that will "knockdown" violent attackers, robbers, persons under the influence of drugs, psychotics, and even vicious dogs. The active ingredient is a five percent solution of oleoresin capicum. Capsicum is derived from hot peppers and acts as an inflammatory agent causing temporary blindness, choking, coughing and nausea, and causes the mucous membranes to swell, preventing all but life-support breathing. Symptoms last for up to 45 minutes with no permanent damage. BodyGuard is available in many sizes, from the purse/pocket ½ ounce unit with a range of six to eight feet (\$9.95), to the 1 lb. Commando Fogger with a range of 25 to 30 feet (\$39.95). Guardian Personal Security Products, 8350 North 7th Street, Dept. ASG, Phoenix, AZ 85020; (800) 527-4434.

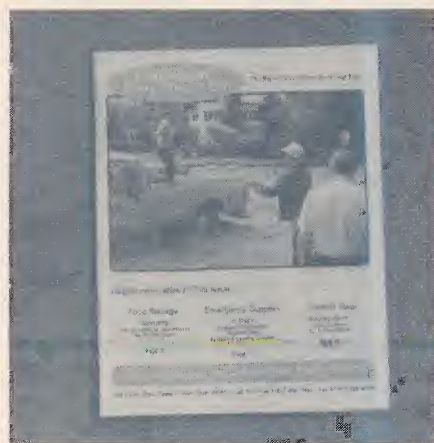


Radon Test Kits

Radon is a radioactive gas that seeps up out of the ground, and normally disperses harmlessly into the atmosphere. It is odorless and dense, and has been known for decades to cause lung cancer. With the advent of energy conservation, homes have been weather-stripped and caulked so tightly that radon gas can accumulate to higher and more dangerous levels. These Radon Test Kits have easy to follow instructions, a crush proof mailer and pre-paid lab analysis for confidential results mailed backed in seven to ten days. The test uses a high quality virgin charcoal passive detector that absorbs radon gas and has an accuracy of over three times higher than other radon detectors. \$12.95 plus \$3 shipping. Sims Marketing, 23 North Gore Avenue, Suite 002, Dept. ASG, St. Louis, MO 63119-2300; (314) 961-4344.

Emergency Essentials Catalog

This 96 page catalog contains one of the best selections of preparedness products available in the U.S. Everything for your food storage program including bulk foods, MREs, Alpine-Aire, and vitamin, health, and herbal products. There's a large supply of outdoor equipment for camping and survival requirements including: Kelty packs and tents, backpacking stoves, and first aid kits. Contact: Emergency Essential, Inc., 352 North State Street, Dept. ASG, Orem, UT 84057; (800) 999-1863.



NEW PRODUCTS



Auto Kit

The Auto Kit from Survival Incorporated comes packaged in a military ammo can that is waterproof and very rugged. The kit contains: eight foil water pouches, two emergency space blankets, two green 12-hour cyalume lightsticks, two candles, eight Heat Factory hand warmers, two packages of survival candy, one dynamo flashlight, one liquid canned fuel emergency candle, waterproof/windproof matches, and a package of bandaids, aspirin, wash-up towelettes, and first aid instructions. Each kit sells for \$33. Contact: SI Outdoor Food & Equipment, 435 W. Alondra Blvd., Dept. ASG, Gardena, CA 90248; (213) 324-8855 or outside Calif. (800) 533-7415.



Halsell Modified Knives

Ordinary production knives are either made from hard or soft steel. If they are made from hard steel, their blades will hold a good edge, but they

will be very hard to sharpen. Soft blades are easy to sharpen, but don't hold an edge well. Either type will chip and break under stress. Halsell Modified Knives brings you the best of these two worlds. They are tough and won't break under normal stress. They hold a good edge and are easy to sharpen. Laminated steel is where the core of the blade of high carbon steel is surrounded by a softer alloyed steel layer. A high hardness can be achieved through hardening and tempering. This results in a knife with superior sharpness and long life. Normally priced at \$25. ASG readers special price is \$18 postpaid in the Continental U.S. Contact: J&P Knives, Dept. ASG, P.O. Box 691211, Tulsa, OK 74169-1211; (918) 355-1429.



Mini Cyalume Lightsticks

These 1.5" x 3/16" mini lightsticks are said to be great for fishing (check your local fishing regulations). They feature bright green light and a great compact size for trail marking, first aid and survival kit, and are compact enough to fit several in your pocket, wallet or purse. Each lightstick is individually foil packed for long storage life. The light from a small stick is enough to save your life. 6 for \$4.95 plus shipping or 24 for \$10 postpaid. SI Outdoor Food & Equipment, 435 W. Alondra Blvd., Dept. ASG, Gardena, CA 90248; (213) 324-8855.



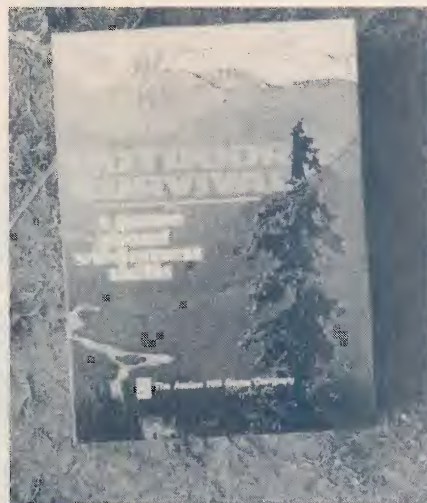
Iver Johnson .25 Pistol

This six-shot pocket .25 is small, lightweight, reliable and attractive. It weighs only 9.3 ounces and is made of steel. Features include a bright blue finish on the slide, matte blue finish frame, and color case-hardened trigger. Concealable in one's palm, shirt, pants pocket or purse. Elaborately packaged in a jewelry type presentation case. Made in the U.S.A. Suggested retail is \$199.95. Contact Iver Johnson, 2202 Redmond Road, Dept. ASG, Jacksonville, AR 72076; (501) 982-1633.



The Original Space Blanket

Unexpected emergencies can leave you in the cold fast but with the Space Blanket you need not worry. The Space Blanket is a by product of material which was originally developed and used as a super insulator for the NASA/Apollo Space Program. This super insulating material not only reflects but retains over 80 percent of radiated body heat. Weighing only 2 ounces, this blanket easily fits into a glove box, waist pack, purse or tote bag. It can keep a stranded motorist from freezing even when in sub-zero temperatures. \$2.95 or six for \$15.95. NITRO-PAK Home Preparedness Center, 13243 E. Rosecrans Ave., Dept. ASG, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670; (213) 802-0099 or (800) 866-4876.



Outdoor Survival Game

For two, three, or four players or teams, Outdoor Survival is more than just a game. Indoors, at home or in camp, it teaches what there is to know about getting along away from civilization — or sharpens whatever knowledge and skills players may have for when they might be needed in real life. It's actually five games, all played on the game board representing ap-

proximately 13,200 square miles of woods, rough terrain, mountains, plains, rivers, and lakes. Each of the game situations allows for adaptation to suit the players ideas. What each player knows — or wants to learn — becomes quickly evident as he decides which way to go, where to look for food and water, what risks to take. The five basic outdoor games are: Lost, Survival, Search, Rescue and Pursue. \$21.95 plus \$4 shipping. High Country Enterprise, P.O. Box 746, 505 8th Street, Dept. ASG, Saguache, CO 81149; (719) 655-2432.



Verify LeadTest

LeadTest is an easy-to-use household test which detects lead in paint, dishes, water pipes, toys, and other items found around the home. Each LeadTest package contains enough materials for eight household tests. If lead is present in the testing material, the LeadTest strip, an absorbent material which has been impregnated with a testing agent, will turn pink or red in color. \$9.95 plus \$1.50 shipping. Sims Marketing, 23 North Gore Avenue, Suite 002, Dept. ASG, St. Louis, MO 63119-2300; (314) 961-4344.

Pak-Kit 2

This kit provides for emergency first aid, fire, shelter, and signalling making it ideal for skiers, hikers, hunters,



pilots and outdoor enthusiasts. The Pak-Kit 2 contains more than 20 items, all of which have been utilized in an emergency or survival situation. All contents are sealed inside a water resistant clear plastic tube. Contents: Tube tent, signal mirror, high pitch whistle, waterproof rip proof emergency notes on first aid, fire building, weather,

shelter, travel, and hypothermia. Also includes a candle, flarestick, waterproof matches, nylon cord, safety pins, razor blade, aluminum foil, duct tape and a first aid kit. \$18.95 plus \$2.50 shipping. NITRO-PAK Home Preparedness Center, 13243 E. Rosecrans Ave., Dept. ASG, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670; (213) 802-0099 or (800) 866-4876. ●

Cordless, Cellular, Etc.:

Strangers On The Line

How anyone can listen in on your telephone calls. . .



By Laura E. Quarantiello

Modern electronic communications technology has given us the ability to stand in our backyard and speak to friends or family on a telephone without cords, allowing us the freedom to move about our homes unencumbered, and yet still hear a crystal clear telephone transmission.

This same technology has placed telephones in our automobiles, boats, airplanes and even on cruise ships far out to sea. It seems that there is no place we can travel where our access to a telephone line is restricted or impossible. The telephone has become an indispensable commodity, a necessary tool for both business and leisure alike. Welcome to the 20th century.

Most people are content to marvel at the new technology of telephone communication and never give it

another thought. How it works is of no concern: that it does work is the only interest afforded. However, talk to any electronics technician or communications consultant and they can tell you that a cellular phone can be monitored by a third party, as can a cordless phone, a phone in an aircraft, or on a boat: all without your knowledge and without your consent.

Personal information discussed over these types of telephones is being intercepted and overheard, not only by law enforcement, but by anyone with a scanner or shortwave radio. This means that lawyers discussing cases can be overheard, contractors bidding jobs, bankers relaying information, real estate conferences, drug dealers working deals, and much more. If you are concerned about covert invasion of your privacy, read on. . .

Cordless Telephones — Very simply,

a cordless telephone is an FM walkie-talkie — a two way radio — that transmits your voice into the air in a myriad of directions on a frequency in the 46-megahertz band. Between the base unit and the handset the voice signals become “public domain” if someone happens to tune the correct frequency the phone operates on while you are talking.

When atmospheric conditions are correct, these radio signals are audible for many miles through a phenomenon known as radio wave propagation. A scanner radio with its accompanying outside antenna, is constructed to receive and augment low power signals such as these.

Though your cordless phone handset may have difficulty receiving signals from the base unit while you are in the backyard, this in no way means that those same signals do not travel

far, it is only due to the reduced sensitivity of your machine. Scanners are made to receive radio waves, and being sensitive to low power signals, will receive them much easier than your cordless telephone, making your conversations public record.

Make no mistake about it, both sides of your phone call are being broadcast and heard. Should you own a wire connected phone and your caller is using a cordless phone, this also is audible to monitors in that neighborhood.

Scanners are purely passive receivers and no "bug detector" can advise you that your telephone is being monitored.

Cordless phones that advertise "auto-load security codes" do not protect your privacy, they simply switch channels when another cordless phone is detected on the same frequency.

There are ten cordless phone frequencies all located in the radio spectrum, and today's high-tech communications scanners can scan those ten channels in a matter of seconds, thereby picking up any conversation that may have switched frequencies. Cellular telephones make this fact especially important.

Cellular Telephones — The new wave of telephones in automobiles allows business deals to be made, lunch to be ordered, access to 911 emergency services, tow companies and the home office. Stepping into your car no longer means stepping out of touch for the length of your commute. A valuable tool they undoubtedly are, but cellular phones are not immune to interception either.

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The monitoring of cellular calls by a third party is illegal under the **Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986**, but it is not illegal to own the equipment to do so. Ergo, cellular calls are being monitored and enforcement

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What can you do about this invasion of unauthorized listeners? A few simple steps will keep you safe. First of all, in the case of cordless phones, any business conducted over the telephone that you do not wish to be overheard should be handled on standard wire-connected phones, where the handset is connected by cord to the base. Ask the party you are speaking to switch to a wire-connected line before divulging any sensitive information.

When using a cellular phone, always bear in mind the potential of being

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The same is true of ship to shore and aircraft telephone calls. Your conversation can be heard through the airwaves and restraint is recommended. Only voice scramblers are of use here to counter monitoring and their cost is usually prohibitive to the general public.

Today's world of high-tech communications is a boon to many and rightly so. We've come a long way from the Pony Express days of old to the instant access to any place on the globe that we experience today. However, just as Pony Express riders in the Old West were ambushed for the mail they carried, so today do strangers occasionally intercept our communications for their contents. It is wise to be aware of the possibilities and possess the information necessary to keep details that are private or personal from the ears of third party strangers on the line. ●

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Survival Staff

It's a hiking staff, swagger stick baton, sword cane, blow gun, lance...

The lance configuration measures well over 60 inches.

Staff Report



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It was the most devastating knife ever produced! Silent and accurate. It could spit death from 30 feet away! This knife was invented by Russia and issued to their elite "Spetznaiz" forces. THE BALLISTIC KNIFE was improved by American technology. This knife is based on the original Soviet version which is able to fire its blade silently out of the knife handle with five times the force of a manual stab! This American made copy is far superior to the original and it's unique firing ability is effective.

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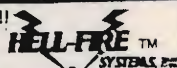
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Staff Report



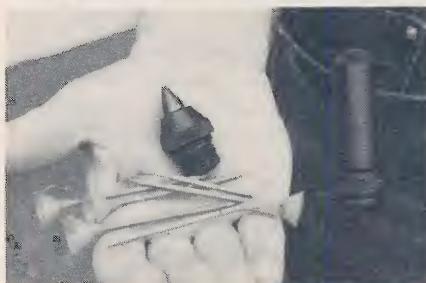
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Deterrent Rubber Ammo

Staff Report

Designed for law enforcement and home security. . .



The rubber slug compared with the buckshot



DETERRENT rubber buckshot and slug loads for the 12 gauge shotgun offer an alternative to highly lethal lead or steel projectiles. They are designed for home defense and law enforcement uses and offer a reduced threat of overpenetration.

Rubber projectiles flatten on impact and can inflict significant pain to an aggressor. They are much less likely to cause death compared to lead or steel projectiles, however, rubber slugs or buckshot are potentially lethal and can inflict serious injury or death under certain circumstances. Another important consideration to the shooter is the possibility of ricochets when projectiles are fired at a flat surface. When we fired the slugs at ¼-inch particle board from roughly 35 yards, they bounced off the board. The buckshot was fired from about 15 yards and did penetrate the board.

Deterrent loads have a very loud report and produce a lot of flame and smoke, adding to the psychological effect accompanying the pain and shock of impact. It should be noted that these loads have a low velocity and will not cycle most semiautomatic shotguns. Also, because of the special propellants used in Deterrent loads, shotguns should be thoroughly cleaned after each use. Each package of five shotgun shells retails for \$9.95 including shipping and handling. Contact: CIDCO, Inc., 21480 Pacific Blvd., Dept. ASG, Sterling, VA 22170; (800) 658-8937. ●



Deterrent ammo produces a lot of smoke and has a louder report than regular shotgun ammo.



The slug, left, and buckshot loads.

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PIX MODEL 13

This deluxe yet compact kit features 11 of the most commonly used tools. Comes in a slim cowhide leather case for discreet undercover operatives. As a special bonus, a 5 piece set of **warded picks** is included. A 16 piece set total. Also included, a copy of "Lockpicking Simplified." Receive all this at a Low price of:

Pix 13 \$42.95



PIX-QUICK MODEL A

These high quality picks feature new lighter non-breakable plastic color coded handles. Picks are of .022 blue spring steel... hardened to perfection. Eight piece set comes with handy see-through case with two extra pockets and a copy of "Lockpicking Simplified."

Model A \$22.95



PIX-QUICK MODEL B

Same color coded set as Model A. Only with deluxe 13 pieces. Price includes tension wrench and book.

Model B \$29.95

PIX-EZ All-in-One Pick-Set

100% American Made! As convenient to carry and use as a pocket knife! Only 4 inches long, half inch square, weighs under five ounces, works fast and opens pin and watter tumbler locks quickly, with very little effort. Six tempered spring steel picks, tension wrench.

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Made of the finest blue tempered spring steel this 5 piece padlock pick-set is a must in every locksmith's tool box. This set will pick open most every warded padlock made today.

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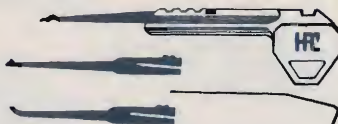
ESP-13

This handy new pick set is the most popular set among professional locksmiths today. This kit consists of 12 different tools housed in a handsome black leather case designed for a shirt pocket. Included in the price, you receive a 5 piece warded key set and a copy of "Lockpicking Simplified." 17 piece set total.

ESP-13 \$45.95



KEY RING PICK SET



This unique design is ideal when low profile is required or to keep on your keyring for emergencies. Contains a tension wrench, three picks and the "Key Pick."

Key Ring Pick Set \$27.95



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SESAMEE DECODER

This tool was designed to decode the exact combination of a sesame padlock without damaging the lock. Detailed instruction included.



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SCHLAGE WAFER

The most fantastic tool you will ever use. This set consists of two base keys and pick. Complete instructions included.

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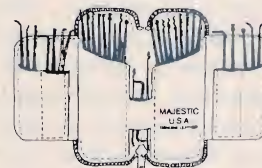
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Steal Stopper

DEI:

Dependable, state-of-the-art vehicle security systems. . .

By Jim Benson

EVERY year in the United States more than 1,500,000 vehicles are stolen and 10 times that many are vandalized.

Here in California, vehicle thefts are on the rise, increasing by more than 12 percent over the past five years. In Los Angeles County alone last year, more than 129,000 vehicles were stolen.

Needless to say, vehicle security is a must in today's crime-plagued world.

Having recently purchased a new car, I decided it was time to get an electronic anti-theft system. There are many such systems on the market. Which one do you choose?

Directed Electronics, Incorporated, of San Marcos, California, with factories and research facilities in Ohio and Connecticut, is a firm that has received numerous patents in electronics technology and which has years of experience in the vehicle security field. They produce several lines of sophisticated yet affordable remote-control electronic vehicle anti-theft systems, each with several models giving the purchaser a range of choices based on the level of sophistication and number of options desired.

The purchaser might choose an economical "Hornet" system which they can install by themselves, or select from a number of other types which are sold, installed and serviced nationwide and backed by lifetime warranties.

Among these you might opt for a sophisticated "Viper" system with customized installation and such options as on-board relays for power door locks, remote starting, and "Viper Voice," whereby your system declares when an intruder approaches: "Viper Armed" and "Protected by Viper, Stand Back!"

When even a light touch is sensed, the Steal Stopper's 120-decibel siren wails, shrieks, squawks, howls and whines for one minute before resetting itself. The starter is disabled while the system is activated.



Basic components of the Steal Stopper anti-theft system.

If this doesn't deter the would-be thief, a 120-decibel siren begins a repertoire of screaming, blaring, wailing and zapping sounds that will draw the attention of anyone in the vicinity.

I chose a basic system from DEI's "Steal Stopper" line of remote controlled anti-theft systems. In selecting the basic but thorough Steal Stopper Model 60 system, I have the option of adding features later should I want to. This is also possible with other DEI systems. Since I don't have power windows or door locks or other luxury items on my car, I find the Steal Stopper system I have is more than adequate for the anti-theft protection I need.

With Steal Stopper 60 I got two



remote control transmitters, an adjustable shock sensor, status indicator light, siren and other features, plus optional starter kill, trunk monitor and protected valet switch features. The starter kill prevents the vehicle from being started while the system is operating and the valet switch allows me to shut off the alarm manually should I lose my remote control switch.

With the system I get two remote control transmitters which work from up to 150 feet from the vehicle. Each is programmed with a specific digital code taken from thousands available. I chose the active, rather than passive system.

With the active system, I activate and de-activate the alarm system. Passive systems activate automatically. With one push of the transmitter's activator button the system is armed and I am notified of this by a single chirp. Another push of the button and the alarm is de-activated, signalled by two chirps. If the alarm has gone off while I was away, I hear four chirps when I de-activate the alarm.

Also, a light emitting diode installed on the dash flashes on and off while the alarm is activated so I can check

(Continued on page 36)

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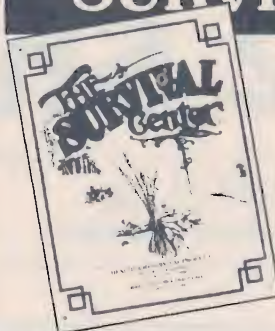
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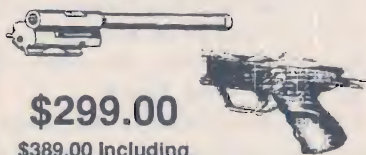
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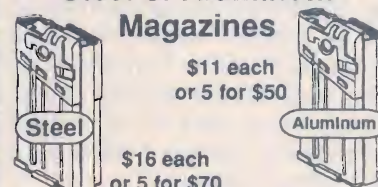
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Gilbert Equipment Co.:

USAS-12 Shotgun

New semiautomatic-only model of the select-fire military and law enforcement shotgun. . .

By Jim Benson



The USAS-12 is ambidextrous. With a few tools and a few minutes time it can be adjusted to operate right- or left-handed.



AMONG the shotguns declared to be "assault weapons" and therefore banned under California's infamous Roberti-Roos Assault Weapons Control Act of 1989 are the "Gilbert Equipment Company Striker 12 and SWD Street Sweeper."

No such shotguns exist! The people who wrote this law — which is being widely disobeyed by hundreds of thousands of Californians — are so ignorant and stupid about firearms they misnamed some of the guns they intended to outlaw, their intent, of course, being merely to get rid of as many guns as possible.

Gilbert Equipment Company does make the USAS-12 select-fire, and now also semiautomatic-only, 12 gauge gas operated shotguns. California authorities at first refused to allow Gilbert to ship the shotguns to the state after the Roberti-Roos law went into effect but after legal wrangling, reluctantly acknowledged that the USAS-12 was not on the banned list and therefore could be sold legally in California. They informed Gilbert officials that they intended to add this shotgun to the list, along with many other guns.

At this writing that has not been done, and the USAS-12 is available to the public in California and every other state except New Jersey.

The unique USAS-12 has some design characteristics in common with the M16/AR-15 rifles and was intended originally as a military/law enforcement arm which would be easier to train personnel with because they would already be familiar with the M16/AR-15.

The select-fire model was the original production shotgun and these have been made since 1986 and have been sold to the FBI, elite military units, Secret Service, Border Patrol and numerous state law enforcement agencies in the U.S. Many are also sold overseas to Asian governments and to military and anti-terrorist forces in Europe.

Late last year Gilbert began offering a semiautomatic-only version of the USAS-12 for sale to the public. This is the gun featured here.

The select-fire models are made in Korea by Daewoo Precision Industries and imported to the U.S. The U.S. refused to allow importation of the

semiautomatics so Gilbert imports some parts for these from Daewoo and makes the receivers, barrels and some other parts in the U.S. The semiautos are assembled here in the U.S.

The USAS-12 was designed to fire 2¾-inch Winchester 00 buckshot but will also work well with many other standard and magnum 12 gauge loads. Another type which is said to work well in the gun is Federal No. 4 Magnum birdshot.

The USAS-12 is shipped with two 10-round box magazines, a cleaning tool and sling. An optional 20-round drum magazine is also available for it. Some ammunition may be too long, however, and not function well in the



Stripping for cleaning and maintenance is done in seconds without tools.

The weight and effective gas system of the USAS-12 reduce recoil and muzzle rise.

An optional 20-round plastic drum magazine is available. Rear of drum is semi-clear plastic for an easy check of available rounds.

drum so the user should be careful to use only 12 gauge shells that function properly. Gilbert test fires each shotgun with numerous rounds before shipping to insure they are in good working order.

The USAS-12 has a butt stock, pistol grip and fore end of Zytel. The receiver is made of T6 aluminum alloy casting. The barrel and other parts are made

of different types of industrial grade steel. The metal parts are parkerized or anodized for a matte grey appearance. Stock, fore end and pistol grip are black.

We test fired the USAS-12 with several types of 12 gauge ammunition, including Federal and Winchester slugs, 00 buckshot and No. 2 and No. 4 Magnum loads. The USAS-12 fires

only 2¾-inch 12 gauge ammunition. Pat Potvin of Swat Tech Systems, which sells the USAS-12 and loaned us our test gun, recommends only the use of "high brass" 12 gauge loads for the weapon. Magnum loads cycle best, he notes. This was just the type of loads we used and the USAS-12 functioned perfectly with all ammunition fired

(Continued on page 66)

Butt stock, fore end and pistol grip are Zytel. Receiver is T6 aluminum alloy casting. Barrel and other parts are industrial grade steel.

Combat Shooting:

Tactical Firearms Training Team

Introductory, intermediate and advanced combat firearms training courses. . .



TFTT Instructors Brosnan, left, and Joseph critique a student's target.



Combat course of fire—moving and firing under stress.



T.F.T.T.



Deliberate aimed fire from 25 yards.

Staff Report

"COMBAT Shooting Courses," reads the flyer from the Tactical Firearms Training Team, "Gain Confidence and Knowledge Through Realistic Combat Scenarios: On The Street; In The Home; With Handgun and Shotgun."

The courses offered, to law enforcement, security personnel and the general public, are beginner, intermediate and advanced combat handgun, shotgun and night shooting. The courses are held once a month at a private shooting range here in southern California in the Los Angeles area with a maximum of 10 students for each class. Shooters pay \$80 to \$100 each for the one-day courses and bring their own equipment, which, for the handgun courses, includes a handgun and hip holster, a minimum of two magazines and magazine pouch, ear and eye protection, notebook and pencil and 250 rounds of ammunition. For the shotgun courses, students may rent shotguns if they do not have their own.

TFFT was founded by Max F. Joseph and Alan Brosnan, two executive protection specialists with extensive military and security work experience.

Joseph is TFFT Training Director. He is a veteran U.S. Marine Recon team leader, a graduate of the U.S.M.C. Scout Sniper Instructor School, U.S. Army Airborne/Ranger and Navy SERE (Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape), a Recon Indoctrination Program Instructor, an NRA Certified Firearms Instructor, competitive combat shooter and a diplomatic security consultant.

Alan Brosnan is TFFT Chief Instructor. He served 12 years with the New Zealand Army, 9 of them being with the Special Air Service (Commandos). He holds the titles of Close Quarter Battle/Firearms and Sniper Instructor and is a police/military adviser, competitive combat shooter, diplomatic security consultant and NRA Certified Firearms Instructor as well.

The night shooting course may be taken only by those persons who successfully complete the advanced handgun course. However, the combat shotgun course may be taken by any interested applicants. An outline of each course follows (not necessarily limited to these subjects):

INTRODUCTORY HANDGUN

— Three- to 15-yard shooting, point shooting, engagement of multiple targets, stationary turns, different firing positions, correct use of cover, steel

(Continued on page 44)



Defensive use of the shotgun in the home.



Working in pairs.



Both Joseph and Brosnan are advocates of the 1911A1 .45 ACP auto pistol.



Different firing positions are stressed throughout the training.

Securing Your Backyard

By Bob Pribusauskas

'An alarm system only has to save your bacon once to make it all worthwhile'...

Photos by Robert Emery



Easily broken trip wire provides low cost perimeter protection if it can be hidden in among the bushes. Two men can install a thousand feet in an hour.

In my 20 years as an alarm designer and installer I've found nothing as misunderstood as outdoor security.

Seasoned alarm professionals shudder and turn a pale gray when asked to secure a backyard. I don't know why, it's not hard to do and in the last few years it has become cheaper and easier.

The first point to make perfectly clear is that an outdoor security system is different from an outdoor or building alarm system. In most cases it is not practical to hook a yard perimeter alarm in to a police department response team or an alarm siren. Even when you follow the directions and put in the suggested perimeter fence you will still get too many false alarms to annoy the police department.

Most outdoor systems are used as an annunciator, alerting the homeowner or guard to a situation that should be investigated. Outdoor sensing systems were first developed for the military and sensitive areas such as nuclear power plants and fuel storage tanks.

Seeing how the taxpayers were paying for the equipment money was no object. The good news is that as this high quality equipment trickles out to the private sector the engineering cost has already been paid for by Uncle Sugar. The real "good stuff" is still probably out of reach of the average ASG reader, but it's good to know what's out there. There are some low cost civilian sensors that work quite well.

The first thing to keep in mind is that any outdoor security system will have a lot less false alarms if it is installed inside of a fenced perimeter. If you think about it it's just common sense. A fence will keep out casual wanderers, two and four legged. Even a rail fence will keep out some false alarms. If your site already has a fence you can now choose any of the aforementioned detection systems. Those with a fence have a shorter list to choose from.

The ideal site from the installer's view would be a perfect square with

no gates, trees, shrubs, grass, gullies, or hills. It would also have a totally fenced perimeter. Site preparation can take more than half of the installation time.

If you have a fence you want nothing touching it. Trees and other vegetation brushing against a fence will give you many anxious moments. Depressions in land should be filled so no-one can crawl under your beams, and of course hills have to be flattened and trees removed so they don't block the view of the beams. Don't you just hate it when that happens? My backyard doesn't fit the ideal site, and to be honest with you I don't think I'll live long enough to ever find a customer that has one either.

In the real world most outdoor systems use a pulse count to reduce false alarms. Pulse counting simply takes an event which would normally cause an alarm and waits until it sees a second similar event before alerting a human. If the second (and sometimes a third) event does not happen within a preset time frame the counter is automatically reset to zero. Pulse counting is also called "alarm verification" in salesman talk.

The other method of limiting false alarms and ensuring good catch ratios is called "redundancy" or layers of detection. Your fence system would be a typical first layer of defence backed up by an inner system of beams or microwave detectors a few feet inside the fence. Rich paranoids (God I love 'em!) will insist on a third layer of seismic or passive infrared detectors. When your annunciator lights up, first on the outer then the middle and then the inner you know it's time to grab the shotgun and bar the doors.

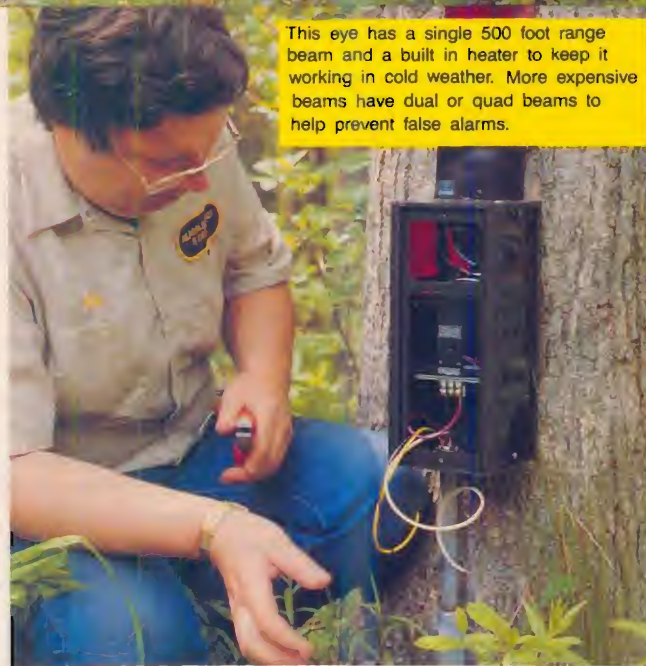
There are eight or more major different types of outdoors sensors. Hard wire is probably the oldest. We take a thin wire at about shin height and hook up some parts and a battery and magic! When someone stumbles on and breaks the wire a bell rings. This system is low cost (read that "cheap") and rela-



The vegetation between this receiver and the transmitter will have to be kept low and out of the beam's line of sight.



Small passive infrared detector modified to turn on an annunciator inside the house instead of the floodlights. This unit now works night and day whether the Edison power is on or not.



This eye has a single 500 foot range beam and a built in heater to keep it working in cold weather. More expensive beams have dual or quad beams to help prevent false alarms.



Romex staples can be used to secure the trip wire. A loop should be tied to every third tree to allow splices to be made when the wire is broken.

tively low on the false alarm scale. On the down side it requires constant maintenance and can be easily avoided if detected. I've seen these sold in mail order houses and we can easily build one of our own in a future article.

Second oldest is the infrared beam, also called the electric eye. These babies have been around for years. Each year the manufacturers seem to conquer another problem that caused the many false alarms in last year's model. The

newest units usually stack two or four separate beams in a column. Since more than one beam must be broken to cause an alarm small objects such as leaves or birds will not be "seen." A pulsed infrared light source and matching pulsed receiver has banished the "I'll just shine this flashlight into the lens while we walk through" trick to Hollywood scripts. Another smart circuit puts the beams to sleep in thick snow or rain. I'm not sure I like this

feature as some smart bad guys might not be afraid of a little snow.

With built-in heaters and backup power these units are built to function in all types of environments. They can be aligned to shine down between narrow obstacles and 400-foot shots are not unusual. On the down side the columns are highly visible and gullies in terrain can become pathways under the lowest beam. Usually these devices

(Continued on page 60)

How To Buy Silver and Gold

'Every fiat currency in history has ended in a ruinous hyperinflation' . . .



Almost anyone can acquire a silver insurance policy at today's low prices.

By Al Doyle

Does it take huge sums of money for the average person to buy gold and silver? Contrary to popular opinion, the survivalist on a budget can afford precious metals, especially at today's relatively low prices.

Silver was below \$4 an ounce in late 1989, hitting a 17-year low of \$3.51

an ounce in late February. Gold was stagnating in the \$360 to \$390 an ounce range at the start of the year.

While the price of gold may sound high (especially when compared to silver), it is reasonable by historical standards. An ounce of the yellow metal was valued at \$35 during the Great Depression, which means that gold is actually cheaper than it was in the



The \$5 and \$10 Liberty gold pieces are popular semi-numismatic items.

1930s when inflation is considered.

Most importantly, gold and silver coins are a must for the survival minded. The U.S. dollar (or Federal Reserve note) is a fiat currency, which means that it is not backed by gold or silver, but by the promises of central bankers and politicians.

Every fiat currency in history has ended in a ruinous hyperinflation. The infamous German collapse of 1923 is a classic example, and the process occurs regularly in Argentina, Brazil, and other Latin American nations.

Paper currency quickly becomes worthless in a hyperinflationary atmosphere. Citizens learn to convert depreciating "money" into tangible assets. Gold and silver are private, portable, and resist the ravages of nature. Would it be more practical to store a ton of potatoes or a hidden cache of real money when preparing for disaster?

Gold and silver become an important part of survival planning when the true rate of inflation (not the government's manipulated Consumer Price Index) is



Small gold bullion coins sell for \$30 to \$100 and are affordable alternatives to paper promises.



The Soviet Union recently demonetized 50-ruble (pictured) and 100-ruble notes, wiping out the savings of tens of millions of people.

taken into consideration.

Fifty ounces of gold (or \$1,750) would have purchased a new car in 1950. Take that same 50 ounces of gold (or \$18,750 at a price of \$375 an ounce) today, and you could choose from dozens of brand new autos.

However, if you buried the paper money that would have been spent for a new car in 1950 and dug it up today, that currency would be worth just enough to buy a beat-up used car.

Federal Reserve notes are basically the same thing as the Monopoly money issued by various banana republics. Fortunately, the destruction of the dollar has moved at a slower pace than other fiat currencies, but the pace seems to be accelerating.

The total government deficit including such off the books obligations as Social(ist) Security and pensions for government employees is around \$11 trillion! Throw in a massive bailout (financed by the printing press) of failed savings and loans, banks, and deadbeat Third World borrowers, and hyperinflation looms even larger.

Buying gold and silver survival coins is a fairly simple proposition, especially if you keep these rules in mind.

Don't buy numismatic, or collectors

coins — They tend to have a high collector value in relation to the actual precious metals content, sell for high markups, and prices fluctuate constantly. Collectibles will fare poorly in a depression, and rare coins are strictly an expert's game.

Think divisibility — Are you planning on a purchase of 100 ounces of silver? Don't make the mistake of buying a 100-ounce silver bar!

Your precious metals position is insurance against hard times, and it will be especially useful in barter situations. Stick with "junk" silver (pre-1965 dimes, quarters and half dollars made of 90 percent silver) and one-ounce silver rounds. Always give up as little in precious metals as possible in any deal. Fourteen silver dimes, or \$1.40 face value, equals one ounce, and smaller pieces provide considerable flexibility.

Gold — The same principle applies to gold purchases, especially when the price per ounce is considered. Imagine trying to barter a one-ounce gold piece during a financial panic when the yellow metal is going for a far higher price than today. You might get stuck with

Worth \$125 less than three years ago, this 100 Australes note from Argentina is valued at just a few cents today. When will America endure the hyperinflation that occurs under all money systems that are not backed by gold and silver?



a pile of depreciating paper dollars in change.

Even though the smaller, or fractional, gold bullion coins cost more per ounce than one-ounce pieces, the survivalist who has a small amount of gold is better off with items such as the tenth and quarter-ounce American Eagle and Canadian Maple Leaf, the French or Swiss 20 francs (.1867 ounce of gold), and the British sovereign (.2354 ounce) in his holdings.

Think ahead — laws change — Although bullion items sell for the lowest premium over melt value, it might be wise to consider other precious metals alternatives.

The Internal Revenue Service tried to force coin dealers in the Portland, Oregon, area to obtain the name and Social Security number of anyone who sold even one silver dime back to a dealer. IRS "logic" stated that coin dealers were brokers, not retail store owners, and therefore subject to commodity trading regulations.

Items of little or no collector value were the object of the draconian efforts of IRS agents in Portland. Anything with a premium of 15 percent or more above melt value was exempt from the bureaucratic decree.

A bill has recently been introduced in the House of Representatives and the Senate (HR 200 and S.200) that would prevent the IRS from imposing the Portland blitz on a nationwide basis.

The legislation should pass both houses and be signed into law, but anything could happen. Barter transactions will always be a private affair, but selling gold and silver to dealers may result in Big Brother looking over your shoulder.

Semi-numismatic coins have a small amount of collector value and a high degree of bullion value, and they are a reasonably safe way to own gold and silver.

Look for circulated (shows some wear) examples of old U.S. gold coins such as the \$5 Liberty, the \$10 Liberty, and the \$20 Liberty and Saint-Gaudens. Such coins sell for far lower markups than pristine rarities sought by collectors.

The \$20s, or double eagles, contain just under an ounce of gold. Once again, several smaller coins instead of one large piece are a better idea for the gold buyer of modest means.

So-called "collector" coins were exempted when Franklin Delano Roosevelt banned gold ownership by U.S. citizens in 1933. If you are expecting

How To Buy Silver and Gold

history to repeat itself, the semi-numismatic coins could provide some protection from a future confiscation.

The old silver dollars that were popular in the western states are the semi-numismatic choice in silver. The big coins bring a substantial premium above junk silver prices, but they are avidly sought by hard money advocates.

Take physical possession — Do not store your metals in a bank safe deposit box or leave them in storage with a third party! Banks could be closed or out of business in an economic collapse, and it is certainly possible for the government to inspect all safe deposit boxes whenever they desire.

Many investors have lost substantial amounts of money by trusting a dealer or vault company with their gold and silver. The metals take up little space and are easy to hide. You'll need them when times get tough, so hang on to your purchases.

Don't speculate — Buying silver and gold in hopes of doubling or tripling your "money" when the metals move up is foolish. Our currency is little more than an attractive looking IOU. Get some hard money and sit tight until the crisis arrives. Remember the three Gs — guns, gold, (or silver), and groceries.

Buy from a reputable dealer — Prices vary considerably, so get at least two quotes. The "spot" price quoted in newspapers is based on raw, unrefined ore, so you'll always pay more than those prices.

I have dealt with two mail-order firms that consistently offer fair prices and excellent customer service.

Camino Coin (P.O. Box 4292, Burlin-

game, Calif. 94011, (415) 348-3000) has been in business for 30 years. Silver-towne (P.O. Box 424, Winchester, Ind. 47394, (317) 584-7481), has been around since 1949.

If you have friends who are interested in gold and silver, combining several small orders will result in lower shipping charges per person, and you may get a slightly better price by buying in quantity.

Mail order really pays if your state has a sales tax on precious metals, as an out of state dealer will not charge sales tax. Call first before ordering, as prices change with the bullion markets.

Remember that junk silver is sold by face value and not by weight. You'll be quoted a premium over face value when buying. For example, if you are told that junk silver is going for four times face, a pre-1965 dime would sell for 40 cents, while a silver quarter is \$1. Multiply the premium times \$1.40, and that is your actual cost per ounce.

There is another important reason to own some gold and silver, as ever-growing government invasion of financial privacy is a threat to economic and personal freedom. Former Texas congressman and Libertarian Party presidential candidate Ron Paul addresses those issues in his monthly *Ron Paul Investment Letter*.

"People should have gold and silver available for survival reasons," he declared. "It's nice to have something that the government can't debase."

Silver dollars were produced to back government issued Silver Certificates. The U.S. dollar has been a fiat, or intrinsically worthless, currency for more than 25 years.

Soviet citizens who rightfully mistrusted the banks in the still enslaved nation were dealt a rude shock in late January, as all 50- and 100-ruble notes above one month's salary were invalidated by Mikhail Gorbachev.

Paul has spent nearly a decade exposing the "new money" that he claims to have seen while in Congress, and a recall of \$50 and \$100 bills in America under the excuse of "going after the drug dealers" is certainly possible.

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing recently signed a \$66.3 million contract with Crane and Co., Inc. of Dalton, Mass., to produce currency paper with "an anti-counterfeiting security thread."

While government officials claim that a new currency would hamper counterfeiting (the non-government variety) and deal a major blow to drug dealers, the rhetoric merely covers up the real target — the cash economy.

Technological advances could result in an electronically traceable currency once high-tech threads or computer chips become common in paper money. Keep in mind that a new state of the art currency printing plant is being built in Fort Worth, Texas, and the facility could have the capability to produce some truly Orwellian bucks.

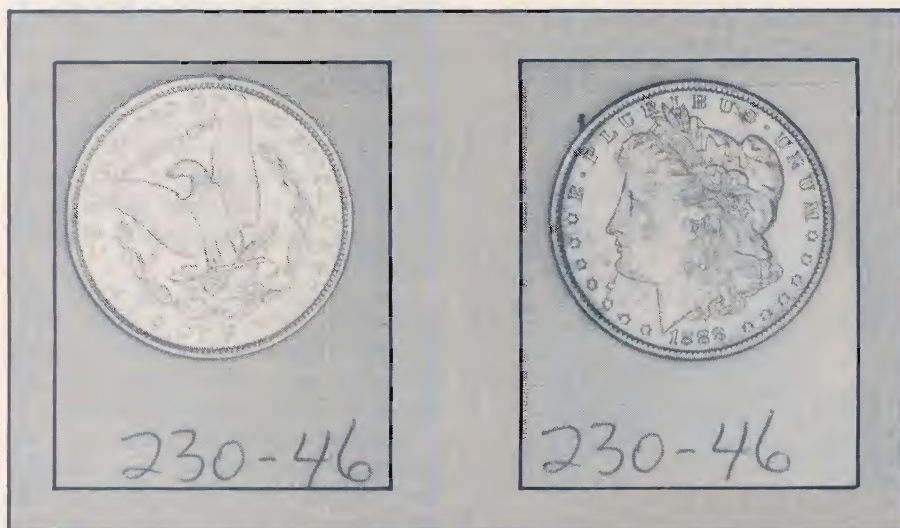
"You don't have to go back very far to see the debasement of currency in America," Paul said. "Contracts to pay off gold certificates were nullified in the 1930s, and the government quit exchanging silver dollars for silver certificates in the 1960s."

When asked about a possible currency recall, he replied, "I think it will happen, although not in the near future."

Referring to the recent Soviet recall, Paul said, "It's a good lesson for the future. The people who had converted their money to gold or other real assets were protected."

He feels that "the drug barons and the big guys won't be trapped. The innocent person who doesn't trust the banks will get hurt. I'm certainly hoping and praying that it (a new currency) doesn't happen soon."

Complacency is the biggest enemy of survival planning. Don't put off purchasing silver and gold until some distant day, as current prices won't last forever. ●



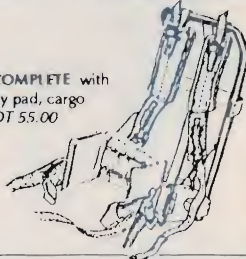
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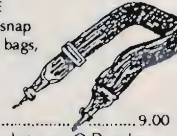
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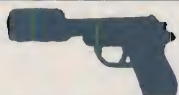
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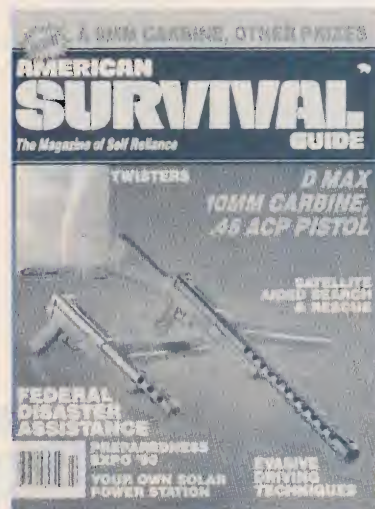
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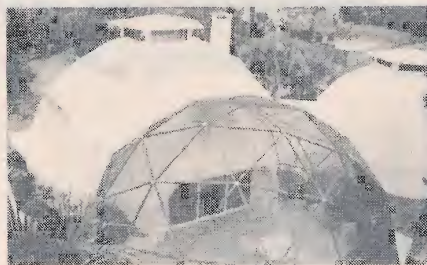


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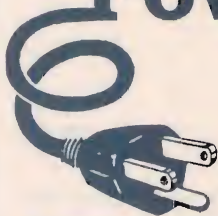
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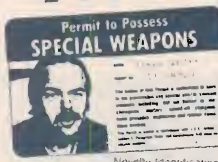
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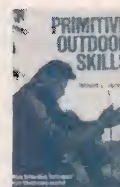
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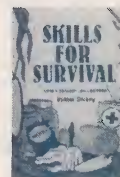


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Smith & Wesson:

Model 3913 Pistol

Compact 9 mm firepower with the latest advances in handgun technology. . .

Staff Evaluation

THE number of Smith & Wesson Third Generation auto pistols keeps increasing, with new models being introduced every year to meet the diverse demands and needs of the shooting public and law enforcement.

The Model 3913 is a compact variant of the 3900 Series of Third Generation pistols introduced in recent years. The designation 3913 means that the pistol is 9 millimeter NATO caliber, a compact model with decocking function, and with aluminum alloy frame with stainless steel slide.

The 3913 is billed by Smith & Wesson as providing 9 mm firepower in a .380-sized package. It is obviously meant for concealed carry and other uses where a minimum of size and weight are desirable.

Instead of the thick, double-stack magazines of the full-size 3900 pistols, the 3913 has a slim single-stack magazine holding only 8 rounds. With the addition of the slide-mounted decocking/safety lever, this pistol can be safely carried with a round in the chamber and the hammer down and safety on, giving the owner 9 rounds available.

In addition to the other features standard on Third Generation pistols, the 3913 offers the advantages of smooth and rounded edges and a bobbed hammer to avoid snagging on clothing. The smooth trigger pull breaks at about 6 pounds in the single action mode. This is, of course, a double action pistol and the long but also smooth double action trigger pull we estimated at about 15 pounds.

The wraparound synthetic stock material, which matches the light grey color of the frame, is very strong and weather resistant.

The sights on our sample 3913 are the new standard Novak LoMount

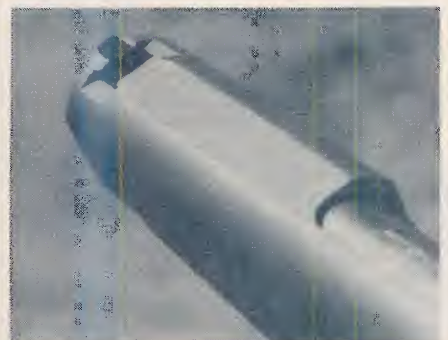
Magazine capacity is 8 rounds.



The 3913 digested all ammunition tested in it, including hollow points, without any problems.



The 3913 features a slide-mounted decocking/safety lever.



Sights are adjustable for windage and have white dots for low light shooting.



Results of quick aimed fire from about 20 yards.



Stripped to basic components.



Checking on the front of the grip and trigger guard aid in a sure hold.

Carry square notch rear and front post with three white dots for low light shooting. Both front and rear sights are drift adjustable for windage. Optional adjustable sights are also available from Smith & Wesson.

Overall length is 6⁷/₈ inches with a 3¹/₂-inch barrel. Overall height including sights and inserted magazine is about 5¹/₄ inches. Width is about 1¹/₈ inches. Weight with empty magazine is 25 ounces. Suggested retail is \$541.

Field stripping is the same as with other Third Generation guns and begins with drawing the slide back on an empty gun and popping out the slide stop lever, then drawing the slide and barrel forward and off the gun and removing the barrel, recoil spring and guide rod. No tools are required and there are few basic components to deal with.

In shooting the 3913 for evaluation we fired USA 9 mm 115-grain ball ammunition, Fiocchi 123-grain com-

bat full metal jacket ammunition with truncated cones and a few rounds of special purpose ammunition mentioned elsewhere in this issue, including hollow point stuff. All of the ammunition fed without any hang-ups. All Third Generation pistols are designed to feed hollow point and other commercial ammunition without a hitch and the 3913 is no exception.

Shooters found better accuracy with the USA 115-grain ball compared with the Fiocchi stuff, which was a hotter load. The gun also provided pretty fair accuracy, at the 10 to 25 yard ranges tested, with the special purpose ammo. But best accuracy overall was obtained with the standard USA full metal jacketed roundnose cartridges. This was the ammunition worked with most, however, and accuracy was improving steadily as we became more familiar with the pistol.

One of the shooters compared the 3913 favorably with his S&W Model 6904, which also has a 3¹/₂-inch barrel. We did not find, in our limited test firing, the kind of almost precision accuracy you tend to get out of the box with some of the European 9 millimeters, but accuracy is very good nonetheless and was getting better and better as we continued shooting. With the right care and practice, this pistol will serve its owner well and get the job done over and over.

The 3913 is a good example of Smith & Wesson quality and durability in a compact package. ●

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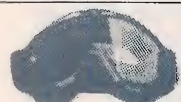
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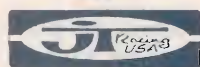
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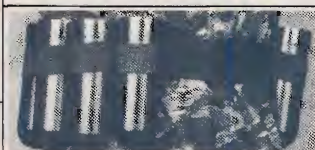
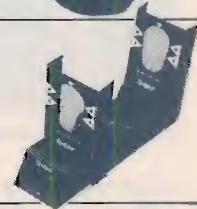


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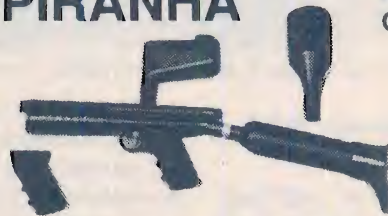
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'Often when taking a vacation away from home, we are prepared for general health problems but do not know what to do when faced with a dental emergency.' . .



Use a towel, a necktie or a big handkerchief to temporarily immobilize a broken jaw.

By Douglas W. Stephens, D.D.S.

TOM and Sylvia Moore and their two boys, Tom Jr., age twelve and Jed, age ten, hiked all day and near dusk made camp on a lovely grassy knoll overlooking a high mountain stream loaded with trout, apparently begging to be tossed in their frying pan.

At daybreak, Tom and Sylvia were awakened by Tom Jr. and Jed jumping up and down outside their tent yelling for them to get up and take them down to the stream. The boys had their four rods rigged by the time their parents had dressed. Tom understood their excitement knowing how much the whole family had been looking forward to this vacation.

As they started out, the two grown-ups found the kids' feelings contagious. Halfway down the trail, Jed, who had been running ahead, suddenly let out a cry of pain. When the family rushed

up, they found the boy lying on the ground holding his jaw. Tom picked him up and sat him on a flat rock. Blood gushed out of his mouth. Pulling the boy's hand away, Tom saw a gaping hole where Jed's front tooth should have been. The boy held up a bloody tooth. Tom saw where the boy fell and the bloody rock where he must have hit his jaw and realized he had knocked the front tooth cleanly out of its socket.

Luckily Sylvia had once worked in a dental office. She gently took the tooth from the boy being careful to hold it by the crown. Leading the boy back to camp, she sat him in a camp chair while she got out her emergency first aid kit. Laying the tooth on a clean piece of gauze, she washed the blood from the boy's mouth and inspected the tooth's socket. A small amount of blood was still oozing out. She had the boy rinse with plain water cautioning him not to suck or use any force. She then rinsed what dirt she could from the surface of the root, being careful not

to touch the root with her fingers. Still holding the tooth by the crown, she tenderly inserted it in the tooth socket, holding it firmly in place while her husband, using a piece of heavy monofilament fishing line, splinted the tooth to the two adjoining teeth. She made a cold pack with water from the icy stream which she had the boy hold against his face next to the injured area to minimize swelling.

Leaving Tom Jr. and Sylvia at camp, Tom took the boy down the mountain to a hospital emergency room where they got in touch with a dentist who gave the boy more permanent treatment. He told Tom due to their quick action in replacing the tooth and bringing him in for professional help, they had an excellent chance the tooth would be permanently attached though he would have to check the tooth's pulp from time to time to make sure it was alive. If it died, he would fill the canal and the boy could still retain his tooth for many years.

Often when taking a vacation away from home, we are prepared for general health problems but do not know what to do when faced with a dental emergency. Whether the trouble faced is a simple toothache, pain from tooth eruption or something more serious like a broken jaw or a abscessed tooth, it may threaten to spoil a vacation.

Before leaving on a trip, it is good insurance to see a dentist in order to make sure there will be no dental problems which may give trouble in the near term. It is smart to add a dental first aid emergency kit to your luggage.

This should include:

1. Medications such as, salt, hydrogen peroxide (3%), aspirin or acetaminaphen (Tylenol), oil of cloves and orabase with benzocaine, (like Orabase Oral Protective Paste with Benzocaine on sale at your local pharmacy).

2. Supplies should include: cotton

Tactical Firearms Training Team (Continued from page 27)



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For more information about the TFTT or the courses offered contact Alan Brosnan at (213) 391-6149; or Max Joseph at (714) 846-8065. Or write to Tactical Firearms Training Team, Suite 120, 16835 Algonquin St., Huntington Beach, CA 92649. ●

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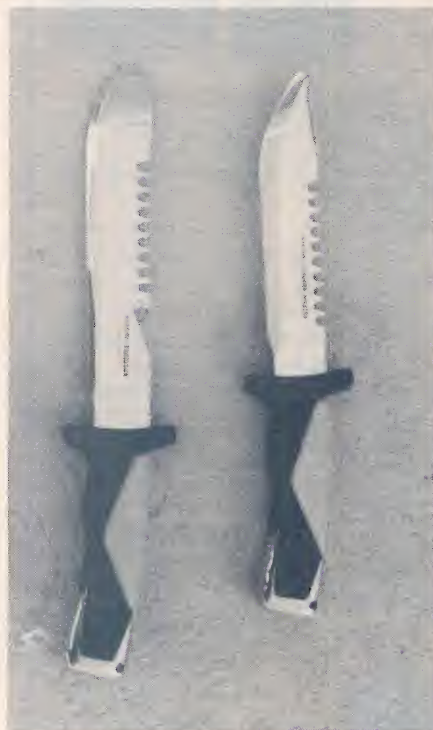
Poseidon, Tiburon Dive Knives

Staff Report

Knives for the underwater explorer. . .



The Tiburon Master underwater.



The Tiburon Master has a drop-point tip while the Poseidon has a blunt end for prying chores.

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Sheathes are made of black PVC with rubber fastening straps.

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The knives fasten easily to the leg with the rubber straps of the PVC sheath.

in the water. The handles are completed with a butt of heavy metal, strong enough to be used as a hammer. Both knives are complemented with a double security lock black PVC sheath with two rubber fastening straps. The Poseidon's blunt-ended blade measures 7½ inches long while the Tiburon has a 6½-inch blade. Over all lengths are 12⅝ inches and 11⅝ inches respectively. The Poseidon retails for \$89.95 and the Tiburon Master for \$85. Aitor knives are imported to the U.S. exclusively by: Catocin Cutlery, P.O. Box 188, Dept. ASG, Smithsburg, MD 21783; (301) 824-7416. ●

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By Jim Benson

JOHAN M. Browning's popular .25 ACP caliber pocket pistol, produced in the early days of this century by Fabrique Nationale in Belgium, is said to be the most copied semiautomatic pistol in the world.

Hundreds of thousands of these little guns were made by various manufacturers. Val Browning redesigned the original Browning model in the late 1930s and that gun was made by Fabrique Nationale and exported to this country, where it was popular, from the 1940s until importation to the U.S. was banned by the Gun Control Act of 1968 because of its small size. This pistol, in its various models, has been known as the Browning Baby or Baby Browning.

As a result of the U.S. importation ban and loss of the lucrative U.S. market, FN ceased production of the Baby. Since the mid-1980s, however, the high-tech machining company Precision Small Parts in Virginia has been producing this nifty little pistol again under license from FN.

Spent brass is thrown to the right, well away from the shooter.

Distributed exclusively in the U.S. and Canada by K.B.I., Inc. (P.O. Box 6346, Harrisburg, PA 17112; 717-540-8518; fax 717-540-8567), the new U.S.-made pistol is called the PSP-25. Precision Small Parts also makes these same guns for export to Europe under the FN Browning name in caliber 6.35 mm, which is the same as the U.S. .25 ACP caliber. K.B.I. also distributes a hard chrome finish model of the PSP-25 and will soon begin marketing the gun in .22 Short caliber.

The PSP-25 is the late Browning Baby pistol in every detail, and the fit of its parts and its finish are characteristic of the high standards of quality associated with Fabrique Nationale and the ingenious design of the Brownings.

With an overall length of slightly more than 4 inches, height of only 2 7/8 inches and a thickness of 7/8 inches, the PSP-25 is the smallest semiautomatic pistol currently on the U.S. mar-

ket that we know of. Barrel length is 2 1/8 inches. Its empty weight of 9.5 ounces (about 10.6 ounces fully loaded) makes it almost the lightest such pistol as well.

This is a simple hammerless, striker-fired, blowback-operated, single action semiautomatic pistol. When cocked, a small indicator pin is visible at the top rear of the frame, just below the fixed rear sight on the slide. This little pin can also be felt in the dark.

The magazine holds six rounds and the release lever is located at the bottom rear of the grip. The safest method of carrying this type of pistol is with the chamber empty. It only takes a second to rack the slide, cocking the pistol and chambering a round, when you are ready to shoot. Besides the



Talk about a pocket pistol! The renamed Browning Baby is the smallest semiautomatic pistol on the U.S. market.

chamber loaded indicator pin, there is a safety lever on the left side of the frame in front of the grip panel which, when pushed up and engaged, locks the slide and sear. There is also a magazine safety which prevents firing when the magazine is removed and prevents the magazine from being inserted while the trigger is being pressed and the safety lever is in the "off" or lower position.

Construction is all high-grade steel except for the grip panels which are finely checkered black plastic with the



The four hits in the top of the head of this target were made with the PSP-25 firing offhand from about 15 yards.

name "Kassnar" molded into the top of each panel. K.B.I. head Michael B. Kassnar, formerly of Kassnar Imports, has registered his name as a trademark for K.B.I. The finish of the standard PSP-25 is a deep blue.

The simple but very effective fixed sights are a tiny front blade and rear V-notch. A grooved rib runs between the sights and breaks up glare. Sight radius is about 3¾ inches.

Disassembly is carried out on an unloaded, uncocked pistol with empty magazine inserted by pushing the slide to the rear about ⅓ inch and pushing up the safety lever to engage it in a small notch in the underside of the slide. With the slide locked in this position, the barrel is turned a quarter turn to the right (counter-clockwise) at the muzzle (It may be necessary to draw the slide further rearward just a bit before doing this). The safety lever is then pushed down to the "off" position and the barrel and slide assembly are eased forward and off the frame. The striker, chamber loaded

indicator and spring are then easily removed along with the barrel, after twisting it back a quarter turn clockwise and drawing it out of the front of the slide. The dual recoil springs and guide rod are easily pulled forward and out of the frame. None of the springs mentioned are under tension in disassembly so they do not fly out during takedown.

We test fired the PSP-25 with boxes of USA (Olin), American Eagle (Federal) and UMC (Remington) 50-grain metal case ammunition at one of our favorite shooting areas. We also brought along some special and rather expensive law enforcement ammunition with very lightweight hollow nose bullets.

Firing offhand from a standing position at targets from 10 to 25 yards away we obtained excellent accuracy

with the Baby. All the ammunition cycled perfectly, even the sharp-edged hollow point law enforcement stuff. In fact there were no malfunctions of any kind.

I was impressed with the inherent accuracy of this little gun, given that it is obviously meant for close-up defensive shooting. Even out to 25 yards I had no trouble making hits in the black rings of our standard paper targets or in vulnerable body areas of our man-sized targets.

The PSP-25 handles well, despite its small size. I can fit 1½ fingers on the grip with my index finger on the trigger, which is enough for a comfortable, secure grip while firing. People with larger hands might have trouble holding this little gem properly and avoiding the recoiling slide during firing. But for most people, the Baby fits comfortably in the hand and points easily and naturally. Recoil and muzzle flip is noticeable with a gun this size, but nothing unmanageable.

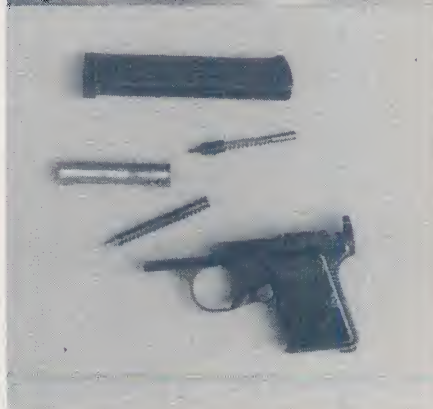
Its very compact size and light weight make it ideal for concealed carry. A number of women at the office were attracted to the PSP-25 by its small size, stating that they would like it for a purse gun.

Many shooters are derisive and disparaging when speaking about the use of a .25 ACP pistol for self defense, but it can't be denied that many assailants have been killed and injured by guns of this caliber wielded skillfully by armed citizens.

It's also true that more .25 ACP handguns are made each year than all the other centerfire handguns combined, so plenty of people, including quite a few law enforcement personnel, find them useful for concealed carry and personal defense.

Of course they don't have the stopping power or penetration of bigger, heavier calibers, but no one in his right mind wants to be shot with any type of gun.

With a suggested retail price of \$249, the PSP-25 isn't cheap, but collector's models of the earlier Browning Babies will sell for as much as \$400 today. And the personal security provided by a high quality, superbly constructed, reliable, accurate firearm like this is well worth the money. The hard chrome version is about \$50 more. We find the PSP-25 well suited as a personal defense gun, within its given limitations. It's easy to see why this little jewel was so popular for so many years. We're glad to see it once again on the U.S. market. ●



Disassembly involves twisting the barrel counter-clockwise to unlock and remove the slide and barrel from the frame.



Sights are simple but very effective. Accuracy is outstanding for a little gun like this.

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No. 2

Fill out the accompanying coupon, and include payment with subscription orders or current subscription extensions. All ASG 1991 Giveaway No. 2 entries should be printed or typewritten on the official coupon, or a reasonable facsimile from this magazine. A facsimile entry is acceptable and valid, as long as it contains information required with the subscription or extension order/entry form. The ASG Giveaway is open to any resident of the United States. Federal law requires that only U.S. citizens are eligible to receive a firearm prize. The prize winner must not be legally restricted from receiving or possessing a firearm. This contest offer is void where prohibited by law. Employees of McMullen Publishing and its subsidiaries or subordinate agencies, agents and members of their immediate families, are not eligible to enter the contest. There is a **LIMIT OF ONE ENTRY PER PERSON** for this contest. Duplicate and/or multiple-copy entries, when

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Prize No. 1



D Max 10mm semiautomatic carbine from D Max Industries, 1701 W. Valley Hwy. North, Dept. ASG, Auburn, WA 98071; (206) 939-5137 or (800) 458-DMAX. Designed for use by law enforcement personnel, the D Max 10mm carbine comes with a 30-round, side-feeding magazine that is very similar

to the M3 "Grease Gun" magazine. The carbine fires from a closed bolt. Trigger group is a modified version of the M1 Garand with improved braided stainless steel wire hammer spring. All metal parts are parkerized before being given a rust resistant "Max-Coat" electrostatically applied finish.

The barrel is made from Douglas Premium 4340 chromemoly steel and is turned by Storm Lake Machine for superb accuracy. Pistol grip, fore end and the butt stock are made of walnut. Overall length is 38.5 inches and weight is 7.5 pounds. Suggested retail price is \$579.

Prize No. 2



Blackjack Combat Kukri knife from Blackjack Knives, 7210 Jordan Ave., #D-72, Dept. ASG, Canoga Park, CA 91303; (818) 902-9853. This unique kukri has its roots deep in the Kingdom of Nepal where kukri knives have been used for centuries on the rugged terraced slopes of the Himalayas. The Blackjack Combat Kukri has been designed to take the stress of heavy chopping. The blade is made of a high carbon stainless alloy enhanced with vanadium and molybdenum. This alloy

has metalurgical advantages for strength and flexibility, edge taking and edge holding. The blade is ground with a full height convex grind. The handle is made of extra hard black Kraton rubber for positive and sure grip. Overall length is 18½ inches and the blade is 13½ inches long with a 12½-inch cutting edge. The blade is .200 inches thick. Total weight is 24 ounces. A black Cordura nylon sheath is included with the knife. Suggested retail price is \$179.95.

Prize No. 3



Assorted lightweight Spyderco Clipits. Spyderco, Inc., P.O. Box 800, Dept. ASG, Golden, CO 80402-0800; (800) 525-7700 or (303) 279-8383. The Spyderco folding Clipit knives featured here all have Dupont Zytel handle scales with "volcano grip" texture. The Zytel handles make these knives lightweight, and because Dupont Zytel is a glass-filled thermo-plastic, they are available in assorted colors. Blades are made of G2 chrome-molybdenum, a high-carbon stainless steel and feature a serrated SpyderEdge. The patented Hole-Opener system allows one handed

opening and operation. The yellow knife is called the Model C14 Rescue Folding Knife. Overall length is 8.75 inches opened; blade length is 3.5 inches long. Value, \$42.95. The green knife is called the Endura and has an overall length of 8.75 inches with a 3½-inch cutting edge. Value is \$42. The blue "Delica" has an overall length of 6.63 inches and a blade length of 2¾ inches. Value is \$37. The small red "Ladybug" measures 4.39 inches with a cutting blade 1.725 inches long. Value, \$20. Total value of this prize is \$141.95.

Rudimentary Woodswoman Skills

By Laura Levesque

Basic advice for women in the outdoors...

It has been nearly two hours since we left camp. The aspen trees rustle in the ravine below us as we walk in the shadow of a desolate rock ridge.

There are no brushwood or trees on this barren trail. It will be another mile before we are cloaked by the forest. The rest of the crew are coming up behind us with more equipment. I think my bladder shall burst.

A simple event like this can find you

on the horns of a dilemma, easily solved by the addition of a poncho to your repertoire. A long Army type is best, it is waterproof, windproof, and guaranteed to maintain your dignity. This provides full and complete cover for roadside stops, hiking, or any situation where there are no foliage or terrain features for concealment. In the Army I also used the poncho as a bathing stall.

With two aluminum canteens of water (one used for heating), a small propane torch, and my steel pot (helmet) used as a wash basin, I could wash my hair and have a total body bath. This method can be adapted for most situations with limited water availability, replacing the helmet with a lightweight aluminum pan, large enough to stick your head in.

First heat about one quart of water, then add enough cool water for a comfortable temperature. In a kneeling position, put your head into the pot of warm water and get your hair wet. Lather up with shampoo, then dunk it back into the pot, and swish your hair around. Squeeze the excess water back into the pan, and wrap your hair into a T-shirt or towel or whatever is available. Your hair will have some soap residue, but you will not notice it because our modern shampoos leave no soap scummy feeling.

Second, hold your head over the pot

A poncho, T-shirt (towel substitute), shampoo, aluminum pan, and canteen are used for phase bathing when space and supplies are limited.

A woodswoman's portable bathing unit for use in a tent.



of soapy water and wash your face and neck, then dry off. Thirdly, put your poncho on and remove your clothing, but leave your shoes and socks on, that way you will not get your feet muddy. Bring the pan of soapy water under your poncho. Lean over the pot and splash your armpits, and finish your top half with a washcloth. (A clean sock makes a good substitute washcloth.) Then squat over the warm water for a splashing sitz bath. Dry off and get dressed.

The last step, take off your poncho and sit on a log or something. Remove one shoe and sock, dip your foot into the remaining soapy water and slosh it around, dry your foot and put your sock and shoe back on. Then do the other foot. This eliminates the annoying pine needles, sand and grit that

for bathing in a tent. You will also need a large aluminum pot (for heating bath and dishwater) and a plastic bucket used for bathwater, washing dishes and hauling water. I prefer a five-gallon bucket, although a smaller one works fine. Your bucket should be about one-third full of cold water, pour in the hot water until it is an acceptable temperature.

Have your little swimming pool in your tent inflated, set the bucket of warm water next to the pool, with a dipping cup, shampoo and towel handy. Get undressed and squat or kneel in the pool. Cupful at a time pour the water over your head and body (at this time put your underthings and whatever you want washed in the bottom of the pool and stand on them), lather up and rinse. Stomp on your

breeze. I do not recommend wet hair at night: dampness, cold and inactivity can result in a wretched evening, unless of course it is midsummer at a low elevation.

If you are uneasy as to the origins of the bath water you are using, put in two tablespoons of liquid bleach per five gallons of water as a remedy. Or use only filtered or boiled water for washing your face and brushing your teeth. (For safe water information, see the April 1990 issue of *American Survival Guide*, "Muddy Waters" by G.J. Sagi.)

If the water is silty, add a few tablespoons of baking soda to the murky bath water, and thanks to our dirt lifting shampoos, you will feel remarkably clean. I did this in Alaska, while camped on the South Fork of the



The poncho is a woman's most versatile garment for privacy, in any situation.

will attach themselves to the bottom of your freshly cleaned feet.

This is what I call phase bathing. This method leaves you at all times covered and able to move quickly, you will not become chilled, and you have the luxury of bathing as frequently as water and heat sources allow. Even after lengthy outings you should never feel like a character out of *The Grapes of Wrath*.

For less hardcore conditions I have devised a portable bathing unit, which includes a small inflatable children's swimming pool that squishes down to the size of a deflated air mattress, used

clothes a bit then ring them out and, no rinsing necessary, set them aside for hanging up to dry.

Get dried and dressed. Then pour the water from the pool back into the plastic bucket and discard, lean your pool outside against your tent for storage. This routine takes about twenty minutes.

I have never gotten chilled from wet hair, even in freezing temperatures. I simply added more clothing to my lower body and kept active by chopping wood or hiking up a hill. Medium-length hair will dry in about half an hour, more quickly with a heat source or a good

Forty Mile River, when it swelled, so heavy laden with silt that I was unable to see my hand when I submerged it into the water bucket. I boiled and filtered it for drinking, but it was perfectly adequate in its natural state for bathing.

Your deodorant, hair care products and make-up, should be as unscented as possible. Odoriferous items make you particularly attractive to buzzing creatures. Also, for the occasional trip to town or for the amusement of your fellow campers, you can steam heat your hair rollers over a campfire or wood-

(Continued on page 64)

Motor Vehicle Mishaps:

Highways



The rest stops on the interstate highway system are among its best features. There are usually convenient dumpsters, clean restrooms and travel information.

What does it take to travel safely on our nation's roads? . . .

Roughly half such improper driving is speeding. Not surprisingly, you are more likely to be involved in a motor vehicle accident in our most populous and congested states — California, Texas, Florida, or New York.

The problems are, no doubt, exacerbated by the state of the nation's highways, a major part of what has been characterized as our crumbling infrastructure, despite the relatively good ratings accorded to most of our roadways by the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

President Bush called for a new highway system in his 1991 State of the Union address, a daring proposal given the Gulf War, our troubled banking system and the national debt. As recently as 1989, *Fortune* graded the highway system "C+" and noted as good news the fact that new taxes would provide funds for past due maintenance and improvements to pavement and bridges. Playing catch-up after 20 years of neglect at a time when the roadways are more crowded and stressed than they have ever been would mean many years and billions of tax dollars just to restore the system to the conditions that prevailed in 1972, the peak year for deaths from motor vehicle accidents.

As we contemplated these facts and figures, we planned a trip that would

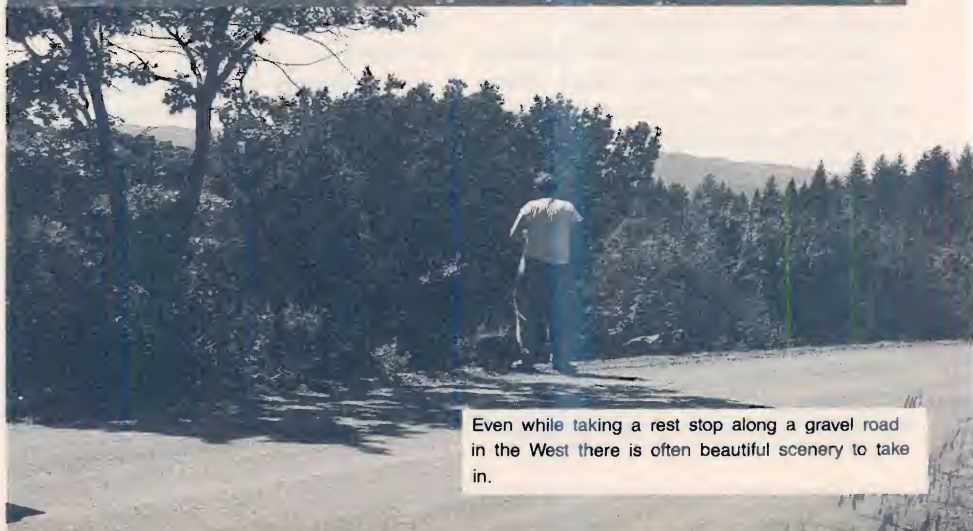


By Bennett Viken and Robin Sutton

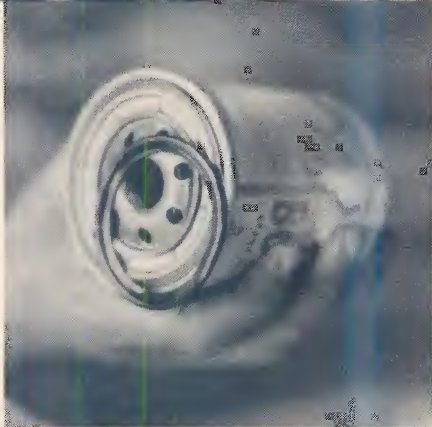
IN the United States there is a fatal motor vehicle accident every 11 minutes; an injury accident happens every 18 seconds. In 1987, the most recent year for which statistics are available, there were 41,438,000 motor vehicle accidents.

The death rate has been increasing every year since 1982, but it has still not equalled that of our deadliest year, 1972. Most highway deaths result from the collision of two or more vehicles; the second highest number from non-collision accidents; third, collisions with pedestrians; and fourth, with fixed objects such as telephone poles. About a third of these fatal accidents involved drinking drivers. In more than 60 percent of all motor vehicle accidents "improper driving" led to the accident.

A large percentage of the nation's bridges were built as public works projects during the Depression.



Even while taking a rest stop along a gravel road in the West there is often beautiful scenery to take in.



Before you take a road trip, regular maintenance on your vehicle is a must. Make a checklist and be sure the car/truck is as roadworthy as you can make it.

take us halfway across the nation and back. We decided we'd look at our journey as a means of determining what it takes to travel safely now. We left with the expectation that major structures such as roads, bridges, truck stops and malls would be accessible and "modern." We relied on America to provide what we wanted and needed for our travels.

To gain some sort of perspective on traveling conditions, we planned to use various types of highways — interstates, federal two-lane highways, state highways and the blue line roads designed to link communities rather than span a nation. We planned to dawdle along scenic routes and cruise at 65 across long sections of our trip. We were eager to see how road maintenance in the rest of the West compared to the efficiency we'd come to expect after several years of living in California where CalTrans provides excellent maintenance under congested conditions.

After we'd planned our route, we began to prepare our car, a late model sub-compact, for a drive that would take us across three mountain ranges,

deserts and plains in what we hoped would be the benign weather of late spring. Of course we knew that a sub-compact weighing about 2,000 pounds with a tiny 1,500 cc four cylinder engine was less than optimal for the task we set it, but it was the car we had. If you have the choice, you will be safer in a vehicle weighing at least 3,000 pounds. Ideally, you'll have a driver's side air bag and shoulder and seat belts for your passengers. If you can, choose a car with anti-lock brakes.

Like most people who buy new cars and expect them to last forever, we believe in maintenance, but like most people, we do let some of that maintenance slide over the winter. So our car preparations included such normally scheduled operations as the radiator's flush and fill, lubrications, tune up and oil change. We also did the routine check of brakes, tires, hoses, battery and spark plug wires. We checked the PCV valve and replaced the air and fuel filters as well as the oil filter. We could have paid a local mechanic to do this, but we felt more comfortable knowing that we'd attended to this "by the book." Having discovered a hole in the muffler, we did take the car in to the dealership to have the entire exhaust system checked out and the offending muffler replaced.

Although we planned on taking care of any problem that came up in our travels, we didn't pack an extensive tool kit. We had our normal emergency kit supplies: a roll of duct tape, screwdrivers, pliers, a socket set, pocket knife, fire extinguisher, entrenching tool, flashlight, jack and spare tire. Since the distances we were planning to cross were great, we did replace the compact spare with a full size tire and rim. We also had one of those large window shades reading "Call Police."

For ourselves we loaded up on candy bars, crackers and peanut butter. We had pop on board and fresh water. And maps — a big atlas of the United States as well as individual maps of the states we'd be crossing.

We also took Karl Malden's advice and carried traveler's checks as well as cash and plastic.

If this is beginning to sound like no more than planning for the family vacation, good. We needed to find out how much of an adventure that can turn into given what we feared was an undeserved confidence in the American highway system. We set out, then, on a voyage of discovery to find out: what does it take to survive the American highway?

Interstates — Interstates are the most stressed of our western highways. On major truck routes and in urban areas, the surface covering of the road is worn away, leaving deep chuck holes and chunks of axle breaking material on the surface. Some busy stretches are merely rough — scraped and scarred — or so badly scratched that driving them feels like each of your tires is going flat sequentially. Some stretches have been repaired, and driving these is reminiscent of the interstate's early days when the surface was smooth and you could usually cruise along at 80 without attracting any attention from the highway patrol.

Other stretches are, of course, under repair, turning miles of travel into an ordeal without any of the typical interstate benefits. What we found most wearing, especially as we drove east, were the heavy truck traffic and general level of congestion, which sometimes turned lengths of rural road into a bumper-to-bumper traffic jam.

But there are still benefits in choosing to ride on Eisenhower's American autobahn. For most of the trip, the interstate system is a divided four lane highway. It's safe and easy to pass slower traffic. Road kills are usually knocked clear of the traffic lanes by the impact of the collision, and in most areas there's enough shoulder to move accidents, ticketing activities and car trouble well out of the way. All in all, the best parts of interstate travel are the places the system provides for all sorts of stops.

Beyond emergencies on the broad shoulders, the interstate system provides rest stops. For years we'd been warned away from these. We'd heard that criminals stashed loot under rocks for quick changes and getaways. We'd heard thugs prowled the parking lots looking for easy pickings. We'd heard they were dirty and crowded with the wrong kinds of people. Shucks. None of it was true.

There were families in four-door sedans, retired folks in motorhomes, young couples on motorcycles. People with dogs and horses, cameras and picnic baskets. The restrooms were clean, there were special dog walking (and horse exercising) areas, water for cars, sewage dumps for trailers, manicured lawns, labeled plantings of native flora, antelope on the slopes beyond the barbed wire and a natural, easy sort of respect for everyone's privacy.

We're of two minds (or possibly four) when it comes to the interstate's gas-

(Continued on page 62)

Outdoor Cooking:

Dutch Ovens

A prized possession of pioneers crossing the plains, Dutch Ovens are great survivalist tools. . .

the 12-inch (six quart) size is one of the most popular sizes. After purchasing a new Dutch Oven, you must first "season" it. This prepares the oven for its many possible uses — frying, boiling or baking.

To season a brand new oven, first build a good hot fire for lots of coals. Place the oven in the coals and heat it until it no longer smokes, and has changed color. This step removes the protective anti-rust oil the factory puts on the cast iron. Take the oven off the fire and let it cool naturally for about 20 minutes. Never force cool your oven — cast iron will crack or warp with fast, extreme temperature changes. When the oven is cool, grease the entire surface, inside and out, with a thin coat of solid vegetable shortening. Do not use salted fat (margarine or butter). Place the Dutch Oven in your regular kitchen oven at 300 to 350 degrees for 30 to 60 minutes. Remove from the oven while warm, pour out any excess grease, and then wipe with a paper towel. The oven is now "seasoned."

The first few times you use your oven, cook low moisture foods like chicken or potatoes, and avoid stews or cobblers. To seal the pores of the cast iron it takes a few heatings and coatings of vegetable oil. The oven actually improves with age and use, so don't mistreat it. Avoid cooking acidic foods like tomatoes unless combined with other foods. This prevents rust and metallic tasting food.

Never use soap to clean a Dutch Oven. Soap will strip away the oil trapped in the metal's pores. Besides protecting against rust, seasoning creates a non-stick cooking surface. Clean



Bacon grease lends flavor to the food and helps prevent sticking.

A Dutch Oven may turn black with age, but with each use the food tastes better.



Dutch Oven cooking just seems to taste more delicious.

By Scott Stoddard

LOUIS and Clark mentioned that their most essential piece of equipment used during their famous Northwestern trek to the Pacific was the Dutch Oven. Used extensively by the trappers, settlers, and pioneers on the American frontier, the name probably comes from the fact that the cast-iron cookware was often sold door-to-door by Dutch peddlers.

A Dutch Oven normally measures from 8 to 16 inches around and weighs

up to 30 pounds empty. Because it's made of heavy cast iron, a Dutch Oven heats food evenly with only a small amount of fuel. The heavy lid, when positioned properly, helps the oven cook like a pressure cooker. Fuel used for Dutch Oven cooking is usually hot coals from a wood fire or charcoal briquets bought at the grocery store.

A good Dutch Oven will last a lifetime, so it's important to buy a high quality oven — cheapest is not always the best. Lodge Manufacturing Company is a well known maker of Dutch Ovens (see box at end of article) and



A lid lifter is a "must get" tool for Dutch Oven cooking. It provides a good non-slip grip so that ashes aren't accidentally dumped into the food.

the oven using water and some nylon mesh netting. For really dirty jobs, a putty knife or spatula can be used to scrape out food debris. Afterwards, apply a light coat of vegetable oil inside and out. Store the oven with the lid off, in the box that you bought it with, or sew up a canvas bag for a carrying case. This will make transport in a car or van less messy.

What do you do with an ignored, rusted Dutch Oven? Treat it like a brand new one. Thoroughly wash it, burn it out, and then re-season it. The key is to keep it oiled inside and out with vegetable oil.

Cooking Tools — Long-handled barbecue utensils will help if you don't want to get too close to the fire. A pair of tongs are great for moving hot coals or briquets around, and for picking up food like chicken or ribs. If you don't want dirty food, get two pairs.

Lifting and handling a hot, heavy oven lid is tricky without a lid lifter. You can make one yourself out of a sprinkler turn-on handle. Bend the legs at a 45 degree angle and then weld on a hook. The legs provide stability when the hook latches on to the lid's handle. There's nothing worse than dumping live coals and ashes into your food. Commercially made lid lifters are available, some with fancy squeeze handle mechanisms that provide slip-free handling.

As mentioned earlier, a 2- to 3-inch putty knife makes a convenient scraper for oven cleaning. Another tool you should bring is a shovel for live-coal transferring. An Army entrenchment tool works great for this. If you don't want to set your oven lid on the dirty

ground, bring along a few bricks, find some stones in the field, or make a wrought iron lid stand. If you want to use the lid for frying eggs or bacon, turn the lid upside-down so that the handle faces the ground. Place the lid's edges on two bricks or stones and then shovel hot coals underneath.

Other useful implements include: a campfire tripod for suspending a Dutch Oven over the fire; a cylinder shaped charcoal starter (requires only one piece of newspaper — no lighter fluid); a whisk broom for cleaning ashes from the lid; and assorted cookware such as spoons, ladles, spatulas, forks, etc.

Temperature Control — When baking, it is important to use a minimum of coals on the bottom. Too much bottom heat will cause sticking and burning. A rule of thumb is one-third coals for the bottom, and two-thirds of the coals on the lid. By using charcoal briquets you can adjust the temperature by adding or removing one briquet at a time. Place coals evenly spaced in a 12-inch circle under the oven, just at the edge of the pot. The coals on the lid go against the outside edge first, then if more are needed,

they are placed further in towards the middle. This allows the oven to heat evenly throughout the cast iron. If you rotate the oven every five minutes you will avoid hot or cold spots.

To test the temperature of your oven, sprinkle two tablespoons of flour into an aluminum pie tin. Place 10 hot coals in a 12-inch diameter circle and place the Dutch Oven over the coals. With the lid securely on the oven, put 20 hot coals on the lid as mentioned above. After waiting five minutes, put the pan of flour in the oven and cover. Bake the flour for five minutes and then remove the pie tin. If the flour has turned dark brown, the oven temperature is 400+ degrees. If it is golden brown the temperature is 350+ degrees, and if only light tan, 300 degrees.

Each time you lift the lid to check your food, cooking time will increase. Because it's better to add heat than to burn something, check your food if you don't know what is happening. Some recipe books will tell you estimated cooking times and specify how many charcoal briquets to use, bottom and top, for the recommended oven size.

Even if you don't enjoy camping, owning a Dutch Oven makes sense for survivalists, especially if you keep about 100 lbs. of charcoal on hand. Dutch Ovens require about half the number of briquets that a normal barbecue grill does, and storing charcoal is safer and less of a hassle than butane, propane, kerosene or white gas. Just remember that charcoal should never be used indoors or in enclosed areas. Carbon monoxide, a poisonous gas, is produced by charcoal and wood fires.

Although it may take longer than modern microwaved frozen entrees, food cooked in a Dutch Oven just seems to taste better. Find yourself a good Dutch Oven cookbook and soon you will be enjoying roasts, steaks, poultry, vegetables, stews, soups, and casseroles in the great outdoors. ●

Dutch Ovens, Cookbooks, and Accessories

Lodge Manufacturing Company, P.O. Box 380, Dept. ASG, South Pittsburg, TN 37380
Major manufacturer of Dutch Ovens, cast iron skillets, and accessories. Cordura carrying cases for dutch ovens, lid stands, and lid lifters. Good selection of cookbooks.

Allied, 6419 South State Street, Dept. ASG, Murray, UT 84107; (801) 262-6411.

This company offers one of the largest selections of Dutch Oven and cast iron cookware including some that will feed not just a family but an entire clan. See photo on page 37 in ASG Feb. '91. They have a 54 minute video titled "The ABCs of Dutch Oven Cooking" that sells for \$19.99. A good selection of lid lifters and accessories. Ask for their cookbooks — *World Championship Dutch Oven Cooking*, and *Dutch Oven Gold* by Val and Marie Cowley.

Let's Cook Dutch, by Robert L. Ririe. A complete guide for the Dutch Oven Chef. High Country Enterprize, P.O. Box 746, Saguache, CO 81149; (719) 655-2432. Softcover, 104 pages. \$7.95 plus \$3.50 shipping.

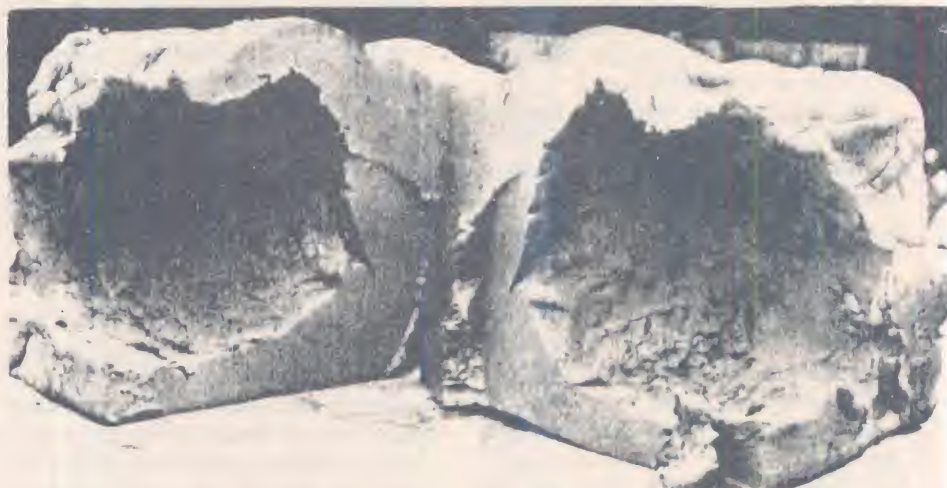
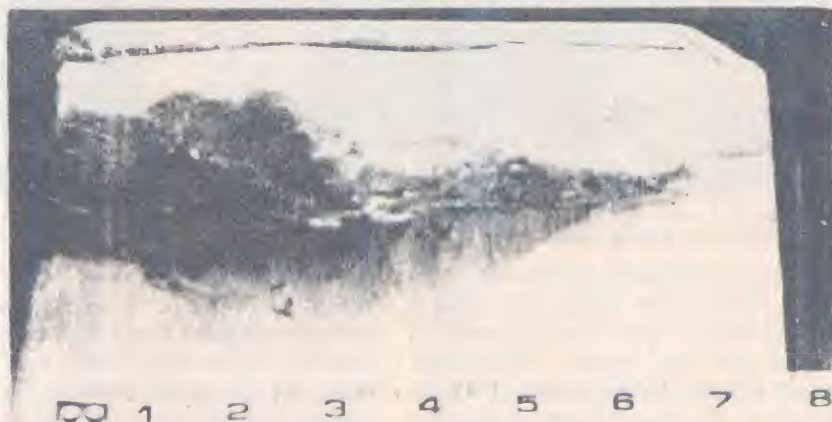
Special Purpose Ammunition

Staff Evaluation

A wide variety of ammunition for all calibers of modern firearms for defense, law enforcement, etc. . . .



.45 ACP Beehive fired from an S&W 4506 into a 25-lb. clay block.



.45 ACP ANNIHILATOR-X
ROUND

We also tried out some .38 Special cartridges, each containing three pellets of #1 buck, which fired from a



From top left clockwise, Multiplex .45 ACP, Beehive .223 and 9 mm, Multiplex 9 mm Duplex, Heavyweight 9 mm, .38 Special loads of three #1 Buck.

LOCK & Load Distributors (1790-10 E. Market Street, Suite 224, Dept. ASG, Harrisonburg, VA 22801; 703-289-6892) sells directly to the public via mail order and to dealers a wide variety of special purpose ammunition for all calibers of modern firearms.

We recently had the opportunity to test fire samples of some of this ammunition in quite a few different guns, and viewed a video tape of other types tested. The video tape is instructive but even more so is firing some of this stuff yourself in your own guns and seeing what it does. Much of this ammo is designed to penetrate deeply, expand or even explode dramatically on impact, or stun and shock.

Included in our tests were "Beehive" .223, 9 mm and .45 ACP ammunition which is intended to deliver 100 per-

cent of its energy into the target with minimal penetration. Use of bullets with frangible cores causes them to fragment on impact, generating many small sub-projectiles (hence the term "Beehive") and increasing the hydrostatic shock generated in the target.

We also tested the same calibers of a type of cartridge called "Multiplex" for home defense. This ammunition provides multiple large projectiles with each cartridge for greater hydrostatic shock on impact via multiple wound channels yet minimum penetration.

Lock & Load also has "Heavyweight" cartridges for most handgun calibers. In .45 ACP caliber, for example, the Heavyweight cartridges are hollow point bullets with bullet weights of 275 grains, providing quite a wallop and penetration.

revolver, fly into the target at about 800 feet per second making three large holes for each shot fired.

In 12 gauge shotgun ammo, we tried some "Blockbuster" and "Dustbuster" 575-grain slugs, "Buck & Ball," a load developed during the Civil War which provides a 1 7/8-ounce slug along with six 00 buck pellets in the same shell and traveling at 1,350 fps when fired. There is also 12 gauge strung buck: two .54 caliber buck shot strung on six inches of steel wire.

Additionally, Lock & Load offers 12 gauge flash bang stun loads, and all major calibers of powerful "Annihilator" ammunition which appear to have primers backed by a powder charge in the hollow cavities of the bullets used. This ammunition explodes with very violent force upon impact, literally blowing the target material apart.

And there are other types of ammo available as well, too much to mention in the space available here. You can write or call for more information. Send \$2 for a catalog with retail prices (refundable with order).

Suffice it to say we were duly impressed with the ammunition we tested and the effects of it and other loads which we viewed on a video tape provided by Lock & Load. We tested Beehive, Multiplex, some of the 12 gauge mentioned, Heavyweight and



12 gauge Buck & Ball fired from a USAS-12 into a clay block from 20 yards.

other ammunition provided as samples in an AR-180, Springfield Armory 1911A1, S&W 4506 and 3913, S&W Model 65, SIG P226, Winchester 1300 Stainless Marine pump shotgun,

(Continued on page 65)

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Securing Your Backyard

(Continued from page 29)

are used where there is a long straight shot. Perimeter protection requires four sets of transmitters and receivers, more if the area isn't square. Octagonal perimeters can cause a real pain in your pocketbook.

A third recent development in infrared technology is the passive infrared motion detectors. It's no secret that living creatures radiate heat and that heat is accompanied by infrared light. New refinements in 40 year-old technology make it possible to detect a one quarter of a degree temperature differential at 100 feet. Passive IR detectors detect heated bodies traveling through zones of detection. Once that body has passed through two consecutive zones it signals that something is out there.

One variety of these motions is so popular you practically have to kick them out of your way to get into a hardware or discount house. You know the light turn-on units, the ones that say "bulbs not included." Don't let the units' price and Mickey Mouse appearance fool you. These suckers work! Its easy to bypass the photocell so they will work day and night and instead of bulbs I find that a multi-zone annunciator with a buzzer in the bedroom area make a great house warming present. There are two big down side features. First, as shipped these units work only as long as the 110-volt power

does, and second, they will see any animal larger than a mole. Considering that for the cost of one column beam you can buy 20 of these passives it is worth tinkering a bit to make them work off of a backup power supply.

Microwave — Microwave technology is the fourth type. Microwave is another term for radar, I think of it as people radar. It can also track and time our cars, most of you are all too familiar with this type of detection. The best outdoor units work similarly to infrared beams with a transmitter and receiver.

The advantage of microwave over the beam is that it has a more volumetric sense pattern. Instead of a pencil sized beam or beams the microwave pattern spreads to several feet in diameter. One set will easily ignore small objects but still see a larger target. Microwaves can easily be bent around corners using an aluminum reflector making it possible to protect two sides of a perimeter with one set of microwaves. Most units that are on the market were built for utility companies and military use. High quality and reliability are found here. Heavy duty weather-tight enclosures with mil spec circuit boards are signs of good units to buy. Now the down side. Site preparation has to be fairly meticulous. Leafy trees must be removed, ground must be level with no gullies or hills and most installa-

tions are suggested **INSIDE** of a fenced in area.

The next type to look at is my favorite, I just wish I could afford it for my own house. I lump it under the generic term of proximity detection. This technology uses a specially manufactured coaxial cable with an imperfect shielding system. Normal coax cable like the stuff the cable television company hooks to your TV is wrapped with a metal foil that shields the inner wire from outside interference and prevents the cable from radiating a signal to another TV. The coax made for the proximity alarm is made with holes in the shielding so that one cable can "leak" a signal to another "leaky" receiver coaxial cable.

In practice two cables are buried about five feet apart in a parallel send and receive pattern. This sets up an invisible "radar" pattern 10 feet wide and almost three and a half feet above the ground. Best of all the detection system is totally invisible when installed. Small animals and blowing debris alarms are filtered out with signal processing. The down side is the cost.

Another type of buried sensor was developed for Vietnam and works on a seismic disturbance. Sensitive seismic sensors can be buried underground for invisible permanent installation or spiked into the surface for temporary protection. Some models have a listen in feature that let you actually listen to what is happening out there!

Still another type of buried sensor is installed next to a driveway to announce when a vehicle, and only a vehicle, is approaching. This was developed for those people who don't want to be bothered when Fido or the paper boy is coming up the drive.

If you want exotic this next system is for you. Using a high tech computer and closed circuit television cameras a single person can monitor any number of locations and spot 99 percent of any intruders.

Considering that a guard watching two monitors will spot less than 90 percent of intruders, and score that high only if he is awake and at the monitors, it is understandable why this system is selling well to the larger closed circuit television system users. While watching a television monitor you set up the camera viewing area you want to be secure and areas that



Properly installed the trip wire is hard to see even in full daylight.

have normal motion you want ignored (the flag on the flagpole for example). You can ignore people walking down an aisle but set off an alarm as soon as they wander off to either side of it. The computer sees any human sized motion and then highlights the bad guy on the monitor screen. This system can watch hundreds of cameras at once and never takes a bathroom break. The down side? If you have to ask you can't afford it.

The last group of detectors work in conjunction with a fence. Most common is a chain link fence system. The easiest to install and my favorite uses a leaky coaxial cable as a microphone and listens to noises at the fence. The system brain counts noises (like chain link being cut or shoes scuffing up the fence) and if the noise repeats two or three times, it alerts the human in charge. The noise, with amazing clarity, can be put onto a loudspeaker so that the guard of homeowner can decide if the situation needs further checking into.

Other fence systems are simple vibration sensors in special packaging with pulse counting to prevent some false alarms. Lower in cost than the leaky coax systems they make me nervous. I've seen several so desensitized that they probably wouldn't sense a tank coming through the gate.

The last type that I'm familiar with requires quite a lot of work to install but once it is up does a good job protecting the perimeter.

Series of wires are installed on insulators and an electrical field is set up that senses any change in the area. Similar in function to the buried cables mentioned above. A human body near these wires, as you might suspect, causes a large change in the balance of the field and an alarm is sounded.

Annunciation — With any type of detection you will need annunciation to tell you someone is there and, if you've installed more than one device, which direction they are coming from. So on to annunciators.

Let's explain exactly what they are and why you want one. An annunciator is a display board, usually with a warning buzzer to catch your attention and a row of lamps to pinpoint the outside detection device that is calling for your attention.

In larger systems it is not unusual to have a computer screen with a graphic layout of the protected site. The area where motion was detected will be highlighted with a different color

background or a flashing box. In smaller systems the computer is a total waste of money. A much simpler way is to map out the site is on translucent Plexiglass and then place LEDs (light emitting diodes) behind each zoned area. This type requires no special power supplies for backup power and no "computer geek" excuses. I like them because they can be made on site and customized to fit any need. A good custom annunciator follows the KISS (keep it simple stupid) rule and can be fixed on the job site by anyone who can use a soldering iron. Annunciators like your detectors should always have a secondary source of power (like a standby battery) for when the Edison Company lets you down.

Alarm supply houses also sell annunciators in all shapes and sizes. They look good and are compact but if you are brave you can build your own for about one tenth the cost. Trek on down to the local Radio Shack or electronic supply house and enlist the help of the local counter man. If he can't tell a diode from a dead horse don't frustrate yourself. Get to another counter man or buy a set of plans from me.

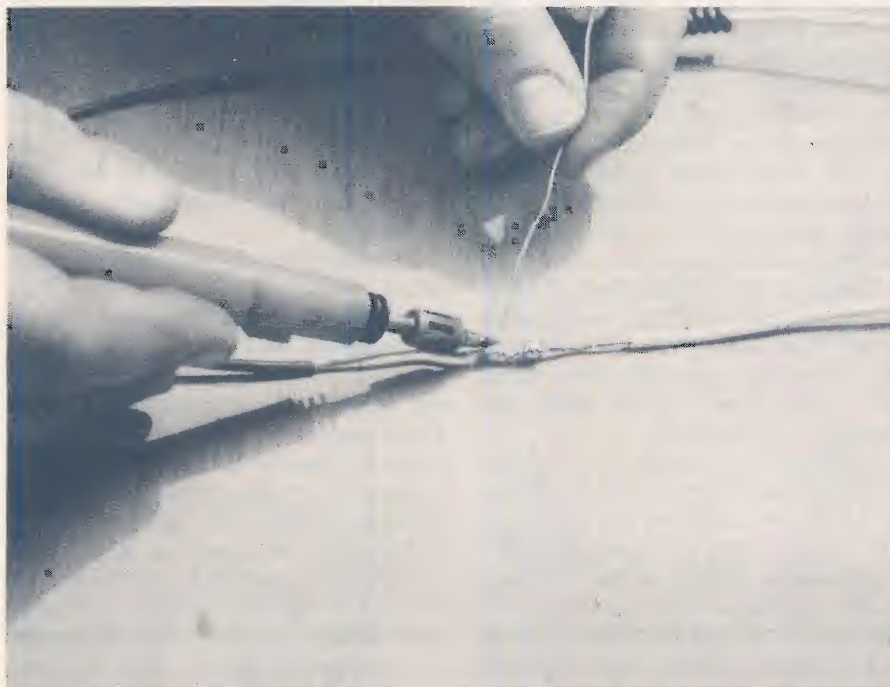
Assuming that everything works mount the units where they will see intruders coming into the yard. Passive infrared detectors are more sensitive if the intruder walks across the units' field of view. I realize you can't always install them to follow this rule, but if you have a choice keep it in mind. Bury all wires and try to mount the motions inconspicuously. Run the

wires back to the annunciator and you are done with the first layer of protection.

The outer layer of protection might be a hard wire system, or a second set of passive infra-red detectors. A hard wire system works best in heavy trees and brush. The trip wire must be thin enough to break easily but tough enough to stand up to normal movement caused by wind and weather. The wire should be mounted at about shin height. I pick larger trees and anchor the wire with romex staples. Leave a loop of slack at each point of attachment. This will give you slack for splicing breaks. Breaks will happen. Broken wire can be easily repaired with Western Union splices. I add a drop of solder and some heat shrink tubing to weather proof the splice. Each zone is a complete loop. Low voltage (12 volts DC is good) is always circling through the wire. This can hold in a low current relay which in turn will switch on a lamp and buzzer in our annunciator.

You don't have to be a rocket scientist to build any of this system but it will take some time, especially if you have to learn all the basic skills like soldering and running wires. I think it is worth the effort.

An alarm system only has to save your bacon once to make it all worth while. Most of my alarm customers who have had a real break in attempt want more protection. Cost is no longer the obstacle it was during the first sales call. ●



Butane powered soldering irons make splicing in the field easy. Be sure to use rosin core solder only in any electrical soldering.

Highways

(Continued from page 55)

eat stops. The best are spotless, bustling places with complete menus, 24-hour service and great air conditioning that chills the air to a near solid.

We remember huge breakfasts, with regional choices that varied even within chains. Hot, swollen breakfast burritos, Belgian waffles light as meringue, perfect eggs, crisp hash browns, tumblers of cold, pulp-filled juice, and the freshest coffee anywhere. At their worst they were pricey and dull, characteristics that seemed more common as we sank further into the East.

While interstates were once condemned because of the monotonous driving conditions and homogenized restaurants, they are seldom dull now. In spots where road conditions can turn the freeway into a slalom course, 18-wheelers whip by, tossing rocks and flicks of tire tread at your windshield. Some areas have so little traffic that miles shown as interstate on the map are still two-lane federal highways. Major parts of the interstate system are worn out and crews are still working to complete the dream.

In Wyoming we turned off the interstate at U.S. 20, an absolutely empty two lane passing country schools and farmsteads as it linked one tree-lined small town to the next. We found this two-laner like most of the others we drove to be in better condition than the interstate in the same area. We did find, however, that our two-laners provided different sorts of hazards. Road kills, for example, presented more of an obstacle, whether it was the rare antelope or the ubiquitous 'possum. And we found cattle grazing in the ditches, sauntering across the road, or simply standing in the lane chewing their cud. In Nebraska on a state road linking U.S. 20 to U.S. 26 flocks of birds flew at the car as if they could drive us off. The closest live animals we'd seen from the interstate were three deer at the crest of a hill above the highway's broad curve.

At Mitchell we turned on to U.S. 26, the route that follows the North Platte to the Platte, and then the Missouri.

We spent nearly half our miles driving streets, state highways and county roads, the two-laners away from the interstates. Almost all of these roads were in better condition than the interstates, and nearly all of them were empty. The best were strips of concrete.



If you take some of the two-laner highways, be prepared to share them with livestock and big trucks.

Their worst flaws were the tar patches piled into the expansion joints and those long sections where no town, farmstead or passing traffic broke the strict rhythm of fence post and telephone pole.

Some road hazards occur on all highways. Weather's the general category for most such problems. The winter snow and ice storms in the West are common enough that some sections of interstate are regularly sealed off with locked gates. A good rainstorm can lift the oil embedded in the road to the surface so that your tires slide over the oil slick like four rudderless boats. High winds can blow econo boxes, semis and motorhomes off the road like toys. We were prepared for these sorts of hazards. We knew we'd stop and wait out any windstorms or blizzards that struck in June.

We know that you steer with the skid in heavy rain and pull off the road if you can't see through the wet. What surprised us was the heat. The sun radiated its heat like a furnace, turning the middle of each day into a super-hot pocket with ambient temperatures over 100 degrees and the highway's surface into a skillet. Because we'd done the work ourselves and bought the expensive stuff to do it, we knew our coolant and lubricants were good. But the 10W-30 or 10W-40 your owner's manual calls for is not up to sustained driving when temperatures pass the century mark. When you find yourself with such driving

conditions, you have to arrange for a fast oil change to heavier stuff (such as 20W-50) or drive intermittently, stopping here and there to let the engine cool.

Another hazard we'd been told to expect anywhere (and everywhere), the road demon, never showed himself. We really weren't too surprised because we figure the demons pick on people who make targets of themselves by posting fighting slogans on their bumpers or windows, by looking vulnerable or by offensive driving such as not using turn signals, tailgating, flipping the bird or blocking traffic.

Finally, what we found out from nearly 5,000 miles of travel is that 20 years of neglect have nearly destroyed the interstate system as a continent bridging roadway. Second, a viable system of two-lane state and federal highways does exist, and more of us ought to use it to preserve our tires, suspensions and sanity. Third, trust your car or truck because you know how to take care of it and have kept up with routine maintenance. And, fourth, respect the privacy of other citizens on the road just as you expect them to respect yours.

America's highways are not as good as they once were, but they are not as bad overall as the media have led us to believe. Our roads link us as a people. More than our cars and our trucks, they are our freedom. We need to support programs that will repair and maintain our highways. ●

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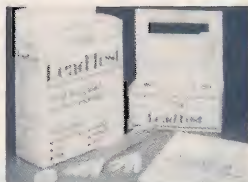
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Rudimentary Woodswoman Skills

(Continued from page 53)



Hair washing and baths are possible, even in the most primitive conditions, using these basic items.

stove (as if you were steaming vegetables). It works just as well as electric curlers.

As for other less glamorous elements of the woodswoman's life, have a small fold up type shovel for burying waste. If the ground is excessively rocky, pile rocks on top, like a miniature grave mound, don't skimp on your digging or rock piling, otherwise the camp dog or other critters, with palates for the unmentionable, may leave the embarrassing toilet paper trail.

As for our menstrual cycle, change often and bury; I prefer feminine hygiene articles without applicators for compactness. If you are happily camping and forgot your absorbent products, or they were ruined in the last rain storm, rip up a cotton T-shirt into strips and use the pieces exactly as you would your favorite feminine hygiene product. After use, rinse in cold water, wash, hang to dry away from camp and reuse.

For pants protection use a piece of cotton cloth backed by a plastic baggie and safety pin to your underwear.

Another problem facing the woodswoman is the humbling experience of having to drop our drawers for a simple, natural thing done so easily by men. Our belt laden with pistol, knife and canteen are then found laid out at our feet. Remedied, perhaps by wearing a belt that is not attached to the pants. Even so, a quick get-away in this position is akin to participating in a gunny sack race.

Therefore, I experimented and field tested a pair of pants with the zipper extended, creating a bifurcated garment. The additional zipper length is easily added to any pair of pants, the fly flap is cut on the bias to give the curve needed. Along with the pants, I made underwear with overlapping crotch hems, much like men's briefs, except the opening is lower and extends

farther.

In the late 1800s and into the 1950s bifurcated garments were used for pantaloons, full bodied corsets and girdles. Except for longjohns, this design has not been used much recently. I found the experimental pants comfortable and the zipper virtually invisible, and I delighted in the freedom from over-exposure, particularly useful as an additional feature on women's bib overalls, cold weather suits and coveralls.

If your work, hobbies or survival drills take you for extended periods of time into remote areas, comfort, privacy and cleanliness will boost your morale and staying ability. I hope a few of these ideas will entice you to develop your own techniques for exhilarating freedom and independence in the wild places. The inventive skills that we learn in sport today will be the key to survival in the days to come. ●



After washing your hair in the helmet size pot, wrap your head in a T-shirt or towel, and use the remaining warm soapy water for the rest of your body.

Special Purpose Ammunition

(Continued from page 59)



.38 Special cartridge with three #1 Buck fired from 15 yards.



Beehive .223 fired from an AR-180 into a clay block from 20 yards.

USAS-12 semiauto shotgun and other guns. In more than two hours of shooting not one of the cartridges tried caused any type malfunction in any gun. All ammo fired worked perfectly.

Contact Lock & Load for more information, and be sure to check with your local law enforcement authorities to determine legality of any of this ammunition before you purchase. ●

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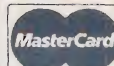
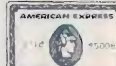
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USAS-12 Shotgun (Continued from page 25)

through it.

Recoil is moderate in the shotgun, thanks to its hefty weight (12 pounds empty) and efficient gas operation. The gas system is very similar to the gas system of the AK-47 rifle, with gas

piston located above the barrel and at the end of the bolt carrier.

The 18¼-inch barrel provided good accuracy at the 15 to 35 yard ranges from shotgun to target used for test firing. The sights are excellent M16/

AR-15 type. There is one flip-up aperture (about 1/8-inch diameter) rear sight adjustable for windage in the manner of the M16/AR-15 and a front post with protective ring. The front sight is adjustable for elevation by turning it with a tool, again like the M16/AR-15 front sight.

One distinctive feature of the USAS-12 is that it can be easily adjusted for either right- or left-handed operation. The operating handle works on either side and there are ejection ports on either side. An M16-AR-15-type fire/safe lever is located on each side of the gun as well for ambidextrous use. A pin punch and screw driver set and about 15 minutes are all that are required to adjust the weapon for right- or left-handed operation. The magazine release button, however, is permanently on the right side of the shotgun.

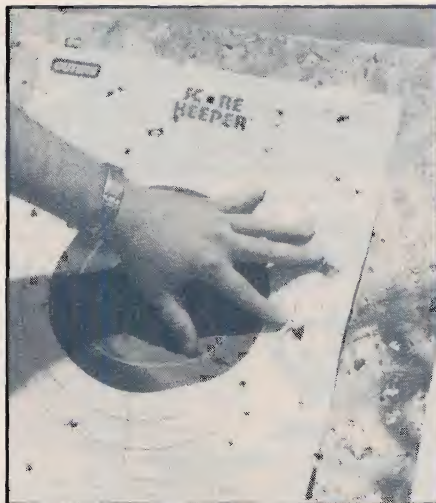
Our impression of the USAS-12 is quite favorable, overall. While the semiauto version we tested worked flawlessly, we have seen the select-fire variant fired in full-auto mode and jam quite a bit, but this may have been related to the ammunition used. Our one complaint would be that the USAS-12 is rather heavy and bulky, especially when fully loaded. It's not a shotgun that's easily wielded by smaller-statured people. Nevertheless it is a powerful and effective firearm with the right ammunition and proper handling. The gas system does tame recoil, but it's still significant, especially with magnum loads. Rapid fire is easier but still substantially affects accuracy. The ambidextrous operating capability is a definite plus, along with the excellent sights, rugged construction and smooth operation. If you're interested in a big, large capacity 12 gauge, this may be the gun for you. ●



Magazine release button is in the same place as on the M16/AR-15.



"High brass" loads such as these work well in the USAS-12.



These two hits were made with slugs fired rapidly in the USAS-12 from about 35 yards.



Rear sight is a flip-up aperture adjustable for windage. Front post is adjustable for elevation.



USAS-12 Shotgun: Tech Specs

Gauge	12 (2¾-inch only)
Lengths:	
Overall	38 inches
Barrel	18¼ inches
Weight empty	12 pounds
Finish	parkerized/anodized
Choke	cylinder bore
Magazine capacity	10-rd box, 20-rd drum
Retail Price	\$1,125 (law enforcement and military discounts available)
Distributor/dealer	Swat Tech Systems 1088 Irvine Blvd., #24, Dept. ASG Tustin, CA 92680 (714) 972-1917

Giveaway Winners

5,443 entries make this one of our most popular contests...

Staff Report

RICHARD Gary McClain, a 28-year-old shipping manager from Marietta, Georgia, won first prize in ASG's 1990 Giveaway No. 3. He won the MK 760 9 mm semiautomatic carbine from MK Arms, Inc. Richard has grown up with guns and is an avid hunter.

Prize No. 2, the Viking Raider ax from Blackjack Knives, was awarded to Joseph L. Hillstrom, a police officer from Niles, Illinois.

The Food Saver II home vacuum packing system was won by Keven K. Dagit, 27, of Jefferson, Iowa.

The winner of Prize No. 4, a one month's supply of AlpineAire storage food, was Jon Kaneshiro, a 21-year-old government worker from La Puente, California. Jon says, "Mostly all of my survival skills are common sense." He enjoys reading about military survival tactics, war stories, and interviews with vets, particularly from Vietnam.

Norman Chodrick, 47, of Long Beach, California, won Prize No. 5, the Wenger Matterhorn Plus Swiss Army Knife. Norm wrote us commenting that, "I appreciate your being there as I have gotten many good and useful ideas from ASG."

Prize No. 6, the Government Model knife from SOG Specialty Knives was won by Alan G. Steutermann, 27, a resident of Florissant, Missouri. He writes, "Over the years I have read and put into practice the ideas of Joel M. Skousen, Mel Tappan, and Howard Ruff. I only recently discovered your publication which in my experience has shown the greatest range of both products and advice of any other like interest magazine... I have been slowly preparing for the worst and hoping for the best."

Winners of ASG's 1991 Giveaway No. 1 have been drawn and will be announced shortly. See page 50 for the latest prizes up for grabs in the 1991 No. 2 Giveaway. ●

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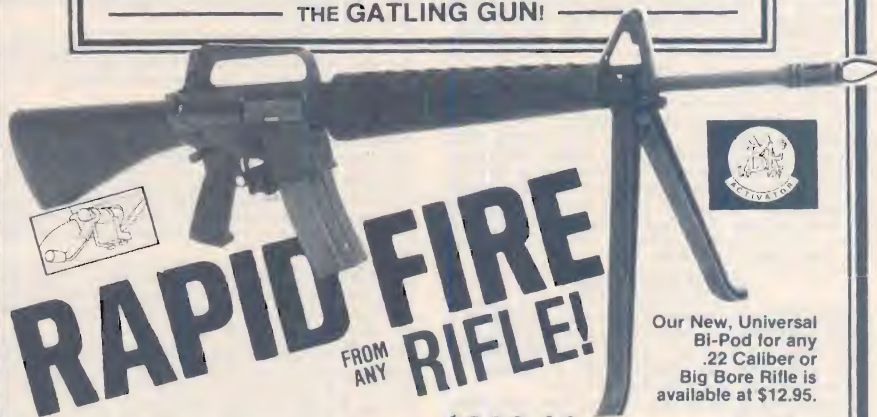
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SURVIVALIST DIRECTORY

THIS IS A CONFIDENTIAL listing of survivalists who wish to become known to others of like mind. *American Survival Guide* will accept properly coded mail and forward it to the coded addresses without charge. *American Survival Guide* accepts no responsibility for the contents or results of these confidential communications. Mass mailings are not permitted.

ASG 0701

Amboy, Washington. Serious individual interested in talking with others who are interested in survival. I have skills I'm willing to share. Also wish to learn about some jungle survival, but any kind of survival or techniques are acceptable. Please only people with serious attitudes.

ASG 0702

U.S.A. Male survivalist seeks companion. I'm 6'-8", 219 lbs, white, 21 years. I have over 50 survival books and basic equipment. Wish to find someone to homestead with. I'll be buying the land this spring (91) and then go from there.

ASG 0703

Westfield, New York. Young woman, 30, with son age 6, Christians, just beginning to learn about survival. We have limited knowledge in herbs as medicine and wild food plants. Would like to correspond with someone more experienced in survival. No gays, druggies, alcoholics, criminals, tobacco, or crazies need reply.

ASG 0704

Virginia. Ex-military group operating in Virginia seeks correspondence and idea exchange with established groups east of the Mississippi. Also recruiting qualified personnel regardless of age or sex.

ASG 0705

South Central Texas. Mid 30s family wishing to contact law abiding survivalists to join or help form a group in these unsure times we live in. We wish to exchange ideas and methods for self reliance. Please no communists, nazis, racists, crazies or trustees of modern chemistry or alcoholics reply. All serious letters are welcome. Discretion and confidentiality assured.

ASG 0706

Edmonton, Alberta Canada. 23-year-old family oriented male looking to form correspondence with others of same interests. I have experience in firearms, arctic survival, skydiving, scuba diving, living off the land, Indian medicine. No racists, nazis, gays or drugs. Serious inquiries only.

ASG 0707

Oklahoma, U.S.A., World. Introducing the computer bulletin board "Random Number BBS" with the following protocols: 2400, N, 8, 1. Located in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Substantial survivalist area with files and several echo message bases. One of the founding Survnet systems. (918) 455-3639.

ASG 0708

South Mississippi. 42-year-old survivalist would like to correspond with individuals or groups whose only interests are survival and self reliance. No radicals.

ASG 0709

Covina, California. I am an 18-year-old white male. I'm just starting in the world of survivalism and would like some advice on self defense, living off the land, trapping, mountaineering and survival medicines. No gays, racists or nazis need write.

ASG 0710

Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada. Looking to correspond with people and families in the Yukon area and Alaska on all aspects of survival in the years ahead. Avid shooter, gun tinkler, hunter and wilderness survival practitioner. Will write to anyone interested in setting up contacts, information and support networks in this part of the world.

ASG 0711

Snoqualmie, Washington. 37-year-old SWM interested in preparedness, and self sufficiency would like to meet female helpmate/companion w/who children. I am self employed and own my own home. Will be relocating in the future to a smaller town, more remote area.

ASG 0712

Moateville, West Virginia. United States Christian Defense Force is now actively seeking new members. The only requirements are that you are a Born Again Christian or desire to be (assistance will be provided if requested), and that you are serious about survival. Officer status will be granted to those who are ex-military.

ASG 0713

Southwest/Arizona. Male. Professional, ex-military, serious Christian, wishes to contact individuals and groups for training and information exchange. Low profile. Computer capable. All groups please respond. Tri-States Philosophy. Publications welcome. Patriots only. No New Age, gay, Muslim or socialists.

ASG 0714

Central Illinois. End-timer Christian family seeks correspondence with other Christian survivalist families. Prepare like Noah to endure the end.

ASG 0715

Central Falls, Rhode Island. I am a 23-year-old male seeking to join a survivalist team. I am willing to relocate. I am a certified Army medic and 3rd degree blackbelt. Done some mountain climbing, scuba diving, and hunting. Also a motorcycle mechanic. Very tired of the rat race. Looking to teach others and willing to learn. No Rambo, racists, gays or druggies.

ASG 0716

Newbern, North Carolina. Male Marine stationed at Cherry Pt., NC would like to get started in learning about survivalism. Particularly, living off the land, growing herbs for medicine & food, survival medicine, survival kits and firearms. Any literature, addresses for companies, individuals, or groups would be greatly appreciated.

ASG 0717

Oceanside, California. 27-year-old male, former Army infantry, eight years experience in combat ops and training, specializing in survival tactics. Looking to start or join group for anything that might come up. I am willing to relocate if need be. Even if it is fiction, I believe in the outlook of a book called *Out of the Ashes*. If you know of it and don't agree, don't waste my time. All serious letters answered. Man or woman, black, white or purple, write. I will answer. Live Free, please write with your location.

ASG 0718

Salem, Oregon. Multi-skilled, 25-year-old male seeks correspondence with nuclear war survival-minded in my immediate area.

ASG 0719

Gastonia, North Carolina. We are concerned about the upcoming economic civil unrest in America and would like to contact others for the purpose of forming a defense/retreat group in our area.

ASG 0720

Northern California. 28-year-old male, mid-west born and bred, a survivalist since age 17, ex-military intelligence/communications, currently working as an E.M.T. in large West Coast city. Looking to form a gayliberal survival group or info network to share information, skills and ideas. If you believe in respecting the values and beliefs of anyone contributing their share to society, please write. You need not be gay. Supremacists of any kind, especially religious, save your stamps.

ASG 0721

Eastern Montana. Experienced survivalist wishes to make contact with other groups or individuals in the area. Would also like to network with other groups around the U.S. and Canada. Adults only please. No New Ager, commies, nazis, gays, or left wing liberal pacifists.

ASG 0722

Hollywood, Florida. We are forming a survivalist group in the south eastern part of America and would like to communicate with other like-minded personnel. We survivalists need to help each other out, we can not do it alone. All letters will be answered. No gays, junkies or commies — all others welcome.

ASG 0723

Lower Michigan. Small group, all with military experience or college education. Seeks contact with: pro-gun activists, outdoorsmen, survivalists and like-minded people. Please no criminals, religious fanatics or extremists. All serious inquiries will be answered.

ASG 0724

Southwest Colorado. Ex-Marine looking for individuals, groups, interested in or practicing the art of survival and self sufficient living. Would like to learn primitive skills. Only straight, down to earth people please.

ASG 0725

Los Angeles, Southern California. Two males, 20 and 22-years-old looking to join or correspond with groups or individuals that are concerned about our future, survival, and gun control. Both of us have a good working knowledge of small arms and other weapons. 22-year-old is a gunners mate, in the U.S. Navy, soon to be ending time in service. No druggies, racists. All others will be answered.

ASG 0726

Update New York. Professionals seek similar-minded members (individuals or families) to join committed self sufficient survivalist group in Saratoga County. Must be able to make financial investment to existing group. We own a new lodge that doubles as a recreation/vacation and survival center on Lake Sacandaga. No gays, racists or commies. Send your personal information for particulars.

ASG 0727

Ottawa, Canada. Serious survivalist group seeks new and active members. We focus on the fields of self-improvement, hand-to-hand combat, war-gaming, and home-made explosives. Decidedly right-wing oriented group, so commies, gays, hippies, and pacifists need not bother to write. All other letters welcomed and will be answered, even if you're not from the area.

ASG 0728

Oakland, New Jersey. 21-year-old, ex-Army scout wishes to join survival group. No gays or weirdos.

ASG 0729

Kendaville, Indiana. Smallish survival group wishing to contact and possibly engage in barter and information exchange with like-minded individuals in the general area. Skilled and knowledgeable in large area of survival related industries and topics. Especially interested in hearing from families,

medical and veterinary personnel and students and seed savers.

ASG 0730

Northern Vermont, South/Central Maine. Looking to found or join a Spartan-like, paramilitary, religiously theocratic, survivalist group. Must be a monotheist following in the Judeo-Christian-Islamic theological tradition. Heavy emphasis will be placed on Islam with Christian influence. No gays, racists or nazis wanted.

ASG 0731

McKeesport, Pennsylvania. Christian paramilitary organization looking for recruits, survivalists to swap information, ideas, etc. Wish to learn more about the storage of food. Men, women, old and young can reply. No gays, commies, druggies, alcoholics, Muslims or socialists.

ASG 0732

Uptate, South Carolina. 26-year-old married white male interested in joining or forming a low-profile survivalist organization. Also wish to correspond with like-minded individuals across the country for idea/info exchange. Computer capable. Publications welcome. No gays, Muslim, commies or druggies. Strictest confidence observed.

ASG 0733

Anchorage, Alaska. I want to make new contacts for an expanding survival group. This is our chance to prepare together. Things are happening fast now, this is not the time to relax.

ASG 0734

Tennessee. I am a 14-year-old white male looking for contacts in all parts of the U.S. Looking for info on martial arts and other forms of hand-to-hand combat. Also interested in joining a survival group in my area. Age, race or sex is no barrier. All gays, commies, druggies, alcoholics and Rambo's need not respond.

ASG 0735

Hayfork, California. A survival man and wife are very upset about surviving. I need a lot of information. Hope your readers can help.

ASG 0736

Baltimore, Maryland. Black woman survivalist seeks to swap information and/or join a group. I am skilled at camping, wilderness living, gardening and canning. Former Army Ordnance officer, active NRA member and no stranger to firearms. I'd like more skill at hand combat and self defense. Will reply to all correspondence. Race no issue — common interest more important. Please, no extremely radical feminists or extremely chauvinistic males.

ASG 0737

Central New York. Libertarian minded, low profile, WM survivalist wishes to network with and meet similar individuals/organizations nationwide. I believe in the preservation of our rights and the U.S. Constitution which does not "grant" rights but recognizes rights and forbids government from infringing on them. For those who are committed to their beliefs, have the insight to see things for what they really are and the courage to stand up and be counted, I invite you to respond.

ASG 0738

Portland, Oregon. Interested in gathering information from all types of survivalists.

ASG 0739

Upper/Western New York. Established, low profile survivalists seek possible new members for mutually beneficial self-reliant group. Age/gender irrelevant. Families welcome. Confidentiality assured and expected.

ASG 0740

Alachua, Putnam, Clay and Bradford Counties, Florida. Would like to form a survival team in the immediate area. Desire about 15 to 20 people and would network with other teams from all over FL, GA and AL for information exchange, training, and mutual support in times of emergency. Men and women of all races welcome. Nazi, communist, satanist, racist, felons and gun shop commandos are not wanted.

ASG 0741

New Jersey/U.S.A. 20s, male survivalist, concerned about social collapse, banning firearms, etc. Very healthy and fit. Looking for like-minded males/females who would like to meet and prepare. Have much equipment and want to share ideas, thoughts, etc. on all aspects of surviving a major catastrophe. Only good healthy people please.

ASG 0742

Northern Virginia. Very low profile group looking for new members. All races and ages, male or female alike. Am always looking for other like-minded groups to make contact with, as alike groups may be needed as allies someday. Looking for all backgrounds, professions and experience. Present or ex-military a plus, but by no means a requirement. Persons should have own equipment, or we can help recommend various choices. Am basing on Tri-States Theory. Will answer all letters, confidentiality assured and expected. No racists, Rambo's, communists or anti-Americans need write.

Address response letter as follows:

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Your letters will be forwarded to persons listed within two days of receipt. *American Survival Guide* accepts no responsibility for loss or delay of letters. Contact letters that do not carry the appropriate code number will be discarded.

Those who wish to be added to the directory listing, please send names and addresses to *American Survival Guide*, 2145 West La Palma Avenue, Anaheim, CA 92801. The listing is free. ●

Hazardous Pesticides

After reading Larry Weber's article on "Hazardous Pesticides" (April 1991), I felt compelled to point out some inaccurate and biased parts of the text. The pictures that accompanied the piece were very misleading. The large, white cylinder on wheels marked anhydrous ammonia holds fertilizer, not pesticide. Anhydrous ammonia is nothing but liquid nitrogen held under pressure. The green gravity tanks (upper left side of page) are grain or animal feed bulk tanks. Pesticides could never be contained in such vessels. The remaining twin tanks on a trailer, marked with a sign to indicate they contain a material that will burn, have no markings at all to indicate they contain a poisonous pesticide. To present these photos with a photo of a water course is a gross misrepresentation to your readers. Mr. Weber makes many points in his article that may be true, and as a farmer, I can well agree that safe and proper handling of pesticides is important to humans, and to the environment. What Mr. Weber has alleged however is that people who use pesticides (farmers) are doing it only for selfish reasons. This makes us look evil in the eyes of the general public. Please remember, it is the North American farmer who feeds the entire population of the U.S. and Canada. If all pesticides were eliminated for the planting year of 1991, the resulting drop in crop production would push the price of food so high, all of the average man's income would be spent only to feed himself and his family.

Robert W. Johnston
Ontario, Canada

Larry Weber responds: *You were correct in pointing out that anhydrous ammonia is used as a fertilizer, but it is also interesting to note that it is used to defoliate crops such as cotton. As a fertilizer, anhydrous ammonia is 82 percent nitrogen. In reality, anhydrous ammonia is dry ammonia gas (free ammonia is toxic to living organisms) compressed into a liquid which must be stored under pressure in suitable containers. If the soil is hard or full of clods during application, the slits behind the applicator may not close and seal the soil and some of the released ammonia will escape to the atmosphere. Some potential hazards if the tanks were to rupture are: poisonous and maybe fatal if inhaled and contact may cause burns to skin and eyes. The green gravity tanks were initially used as feed tanks, but many years ago*

the grain/seed dealer closed and now is doing business as a fertilizer/pesticide dealer. The twin tanks on the trailer could be storing the following materials according to the Department of Transportation Emergency Response Guidebook for first responders (warning placard #1993 combustible or flammable liquids): tree or weed killing compounds, cosmetics, creosote — coal tar, ethyl nitrate, fuel oil solvents, insecticide or tar/wax. My home is in southern Minnesota which has some of the richest farm land in the world. Many of my ancestors were farmers, and some of my relatives are still farming. The intent of my article was to help inform readers about hazardous pesticides, not to slander farmers.

Gas Mask Test

In regard to Jim Benson's article on wearing the Israeli protective mask (May 1991), the author made a serious mistake that could cause the inexperienced possible injury or worse. Under no circumstances should one EVER slide the mask on over one's head as the author has demonstrated. Any military instructor will tell you that this puts too much strain on the rubber grommets connecting the straps to the mask. Special care should be taken in donning a protective mask. The wearer should place their chin in first and then lift the straps over their head. If the straps should break at any time, the wearer would be up the proverbial creek. I'm sure the author was not aware of this fact. Even under the best of conditions, this practice is unwise. Especially if the mask has been stored in a closet or the trunk of a car.

Adam Howell
Benton, Arkansas

Jim Benson responds: *I'm not familiar with the U.S. military method for donning this mask but I recall being instructed when purchasing it that it could be put on this way. Note that I said, "Loosen the straps sufficiently" before donning the mask and check often for signs of wear.*

Burglars and Wolves

I was not at all happy with your article on "Burglars" in the May 1991 issue. Your comparison of burglars and

wolves, and referring to burglars as animals, disappoints me. How can you make such a comparison? Animals hunt to survive and rely strictly on instinct. They don't sit around contemplating who they can hurt. Man, on the other hand, psychopathic or not, decides whether he will do something good or bad. These men should not be referred to as animals, Mr. Hauelsen, but monsters. I can see where you are coming from but at the same time you are giving animals a bum rap. Where do you get off thinking that the American public feels sorry for these guys?

Debbie Chase
Rochester, New York

The opinions expressed in the article were those of the author. We understand your concern about them reflecting negatively on wolves but we believe most readers understand that the author is merely using the wolf's behavior in a metaphorical sense. His comments about people feeling sorry for burglars refers to the typical liberal-left viewpoint of these criminals.

Mossberg Products

I must take strong exception to promotion of Mossberg products in your May 1991 issue. It should be obvious the company does not support the issues this publication is based on. A refusal to send a demonstration firearm seems to be a pretty clear sign. I have corresponded with Mossberg about their advertisings belittling a female's ability to handle a handgun and supporting of legislation that does nothing but promote sales of their products. The response has done nothing to change my opinion of what they are doing.

John Beaumont
Orlando, Florida

We sympathize strongly with you. In trying to find out why a Mossberg representative would not deal with us years ago, we learned that they said we were "radical." We now understand this, in light of their recent bizarre behavior, including the obnoxious call for a federal law requiring locks for all guns. But many people already own their shotguns, and the U.S. military uses them. Since they are common, we believe people may be interested in evaluations of some of them. ●

Dos, Don'ts, Maybes:

Safe Gun Handling

A review of the basics and some added thoughts on an all-important subject. . .



By Jim Benson

IN light of the historically unprecedented attack on our rights and freedoms to own and use guns by the predominantly socialist-controlled mass media today, it's important that all of us be well versed in the rules of firearms safety.

Accidents with guns and the misuse of guns are, after all, the only aspects

It's easy, as in this simulation, to forget you have a loaded weapon in your hands. Always keep guns pointed in a safe direction, loaded or not.

of firearms ownership which is generally "reported" on by the press. When accidental shootings and discharges occur or when a gun is used for criminal purposes we see an instant media event, and the anti-firearm-ownership lies and hate propaganda which inevitably ensues serves to further instill in the minds of the public the notion

that "guns are bad."

"Never, ever touch a gun," was the admonition one woman reporter's mother made to her as a child, she related in a news "story" about guns.

Not a bad idea if you're afraid of firearms, see them as inherently evil objects or are just plain ignorant about them, which many people are in today's urban, yuppie oriented popular culture. However, others of us who like



Don't fire in the air, even in isolated locations. You never know where the bullets will fall.

guns and find great enjoyment, satisfaction and security in owning them and using them responsibly know better. We have guns and our friends, families, neighbors & business associates are subsequently exposed to them. It's vital, therefore, that we observe the proper safe gun handling techniques at all times for the safety of ourselves and others and for the maximum public relations benefits.

Of course accidents with guns can and do happen and will continue to happen, just as accidents with vehicles can and do, but the less of this the better.

I won't go over all the most basic rules of safe gun handling, many of

you already know these anyway or can easily review them if desired by simply looking them up in just about any firearm owner's manual. I'm more concerned here with educating the people who are basically ignorant of guns, and with providing some food for thought on some perhaps overlooked aspects of gun safety for those of us who are around guns more often.

Let's start with some basic rules that anyone should know and observe at all times with guns.

Perhaps the most fundamental rule I know is: all guns are loaded at all times and must be treated as such.

As Bob Clark, ASG's editorial director has commented, a lot of people have been killed with "unloaded guns." That is, guns they *thought* were unloaded.



If you don't load a gun until you're ready to fire it, you greatly reduce the danger of accidental discharges.

If you simply regard all guns as though they are always loaded you get in the habit of avoiding pointing them indiscriminately (at people or anywhere you don't want them to fire at), and handling them carefully.

Secondly, and just as important, *don't load guns until you are ready to fire them*. This cannot be overemphasized. A loaded gun — anywhere — requires a good deal of attention and care in handling. If you keep a loaded gun for personal security you *must* be aware at all times that this is a high state of readiness and great caution must be used. When not actually firing or preparing to fire your guns, keep them secured, either locked up or with trigger locks or other devices for preventing them being fired. Unattended children finding their parents' loaded guns at home, or the guns with ammunition nearby, often result in accidental shootings. Educating children about guns

and keeping them secure from irresponsible or immature people can prevent many of these accidental shootings.

Never point a gun where you don't want it to fire. This rule goes hand in hand with regarding all guns as being loaded at all times. If you get in the habit of keeping the gun pointed in a safe direction (at least in a direction that you believe is the safest) you can avoid tragic accidents.

Concomitantly, make sure — or at the very least, do your best — that others you are with always keep firearms pointed in safe directions. Too many times I've been with people who aren't concentrating on what they're doing and unintentionally point or swing the muzzle of a loaded or unloaded gun in my direction. I've done this myself at times. It's easy to forget, even for an instant, how you're handling that gun. Habitual training in keeping a gun pointed down range or in an otherwise safe direction is a must for all shooters.

No less important than knowing how to *handle* your gun or guns safely, is knowing how your gun or guns work. You have to use your firearms, get to know their operation and their quirks, what they will and will not do, what they will tend to do, what type of ammo works best in them for which purpose, etc. In understanding your firearms you are in a much better position to handle them safely. No one can reasonably expect to just buy a gun and put it in a drawer and then, somehow automatically, be able to handle it safely or use it effectively if needed. Use and train with your firearms and learn as much as you can about them.

With these safety basics in mind, let's move on to a few other considerations regarding use and possession of guns.

Home and personal defense. This is a primary concern for many people



Keep your finger off the trigger until actually firing.



Gun locking devices are commonly available and can prevent inquisitive children or irresponsible adults from misusing your firearms.

who purchase firearms. What type of gun should you buy? What type of ammunition should you use in it? If you have to use the gun in a defensive situation, what might happen? These are things the prospective gun purchaser has to consider before picking up a firearm from their local gun shop.

If you live in an apartment, you likely won't want a .308 caliber battle rifle for home defense. On the other hand, if you own an isolated home in the wilds of Montana or Alaska, a .308 caliber semiautomatic rifle might not be such a bad idea. In other words, it depends on your circumstances. If you shoot at an intruder with a .44 Magnum and you miss, and the bullet travels through an apartment wall and hits your neighbor, the subsequent liability lawsuit — even if criminal charges aren't filed against you as well — could well ruin your life. There are lots of different types of ammunition, much of it made with home defense in mind, available on the market today. Learn about it and train with enough of it that you have a pretty good idea of what it will do in your gun if you have to use it in your home, boat, etc.

Here I'll also mention the ongoing

(Continued on page 78)

Ten Medicinal Herbs You Should Know

'The home pharmacy has all but disappeared, and with it the knowledge of simple herbal remedies for common ailments'...

Photos by Debra Nuzzi and Roy Upton

Debra Nuzzi holds Master Herbalist degrees from Dominion Herbal College and the School of Natural Healing. She has been a student of herbal medicine for 22 years and has taught herbology since 1984. She is the author of the herbal video series, *Herbal Preparations and Natural Therapies—Creating and Using a Home Herbal Medicine Chest*. She is president of Nature's Apothecary Inc., a fresh plant herbal extract company, and *Essential Aromatherapy*, which manufactures aromatherapy inhalers. Both are in Boulder, Colorado — The editors.

By Debra Nuzzi, MH

ONE hundred years ago, the kitchen garden was also the medicine garden, and plants which produced

Familiarize yourself with a few key herbs and begin to use them in your daily life.

medicinal benefit were part of the working knowledge of the common people. Those plants which were difficult to cultivate were sought in the surrounding fields and meadows, then preserved and added to the harvest storehouse to soothe and heal the illnesses of winter.

With the advent of the chemically synthesized drugs, the home pharmacy has all but disappeared, and with it the knowledge of simple herbal remedies for common ailments. This knowledge is now resurfacing: researched and regenerated by people who want to take an active and independent role in their own health care.

A very necessary part of this renaissance is self-education. Starting is easy. Just familiarize yourself with a few

key herbs and begin to use them in your daily life. As you see how effective they are it will spark your desire to learn more, and you're on your way!

Following is a list of 10 commonly available herbs and simple ways to use them in personal health maintenance. These herbs are easily available and fulfill a wide range of benefits with a minimum amount of effort.

ALOE LEAF (Aloe Vera) — This plant has hundreds of uses, the most popular being its ability to alleviate the pain of burns and to speed their healing. It is very easily cultivated as a house plant, and should be in every kitchen. It is the best remedy for sunburn, often preventing later peeling. Immediately immerse the burn in cold water or apply ice until the heat subsides, then generously apply the aloe. It is best to trim the prickly sides off the succulent leaf, then split the leaf in half and gently rub the exposed gel onto the affected area. Aloe may also be applied to any cut or skin abrasion, and onto skin eruptions, remarkably speeding healing. To relieve the pain and itching of hemorrhoids, carve out a suppository sized chunk of the inner leaf gel and insert into the rectum.

BURDOCK ROOT (Arcticum lappa) — Well known as a blood detoxification agent and eaten as a vegetable known as Gobo in oriental cuisine, Burdock root is available throughout the U.S. It is used for skin eruptions and dry scaly skin conditions. Burdock is also used as a digestive stimulant and to lower blood sugar. Its seed is used as a diuretic and kidney tonic. The root is now found in supermarkets and can be cooked as a vegetable or made into a decoction. Fresh plant fluid extracts of the root and seed are also

available in health food stores.

COMFREY LEAF/ROOT (Symphytum officinalis) — Comfrey should be grown as a house plant in every home. Like Aloe, it is a natural herbal bandaid, useful for cuts, scrapes and burns. It is styptic, which means that it will stop bleeding. Commonly known as "knit-bone," it stimulates tissue regeneration. Used externally as a poultice, it helps heal bone fractures and deep wounds. Recovery rate is accelerated with use of this fresh plant

Aloe is easily cultivated as a house plant. It is the best remedy for sunburn and may also be applied to any cut or abrasion.

poultice on muscle, tendon and ligamentous injuries. Thoroughly cleanse the wound with an antiseptic first, because Comfrey is so quick to regenerate the tissue that it will seal over the wound with the bacteria still inside.

DANDELION ROOT (Taraxacum officinalis) — Dandelion is naturally high in potassium, making it a safe diuretic, increasing the ability to eliminate waste products through the urinary channels. It helps restore kidney function and relieves liver and spleen congestion. It is extremely beneficial as a spring tonic which stimulates sluggish liver function. The root should be made into a strong decoction, which means that it should be

Echinacea Purpurea flower.



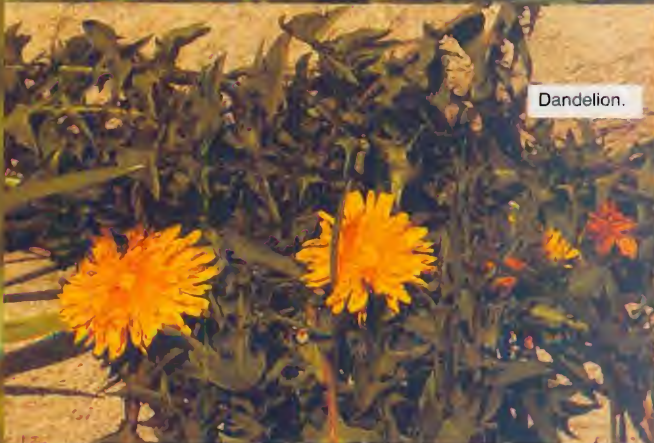
Burdock.



Comfrey.



Dandelion.



Ten Medicinal Herbs You Should Know



Valerian.



St. John's Wort.



Flowering Burdock.



Aloe Vera.

cut into small pieces and simmered in a glass or enamel vessel for at least 20 minutes before straining and drinking. The fresh plant fluid extract can also be used. Put 20-30 drops into a cup of hot water and drink as a tea.

ECHINACEA ROOT (*Echinacea angustifolia*) — A powerful immune stimulant, Echinacea has become increasingly popular in recent years. Its antiseptic and anti-viral properties are used for sore throats, flu, colds, infections and allergies. It also has tumor inhibiting properties. The most potent form is a fresh plant fluid extract, however, medicinal benefit can also be derived by making a decoction, as explained under Dandelion.

GARLIC BULB (*Allium sativum*) — Best known for its antibiotic effect, garlic bulbs or the milder garlic greens can be eaten raw at the onset of a cold or flu. A small piece of bread may be necessary to make the spiciness more palatable. You can grow garlic

Echinacea is a powerful immune stimulant which has become increasingly popular in recent years.

greens by planting the bulbs in a 4-inch-deep pot, and trimming them to use in salads or stir fry dishes. Garlic oil is effectively used for ear infections. It is easily made by finely chopping enough fresh organic garlic bulbs to fill a jelly jar, and covering them with organic olive oil. Cover the jar with cheesecloth held on with a rubber band. Let the mixture sit in a warm room for a week or a sunny window for several hours (if you need it right away). Strain the oil and store it in an amber glass jar. The warmed oil is then placed in the ear and plugged with a cotton ball. Leave in overnight and treat nightly until the infection is gone. *This therapy is not to be used in cases of eardrum perforation.* A wonderful garlic cough syrup can be made by simmering freshly chopped garlic in apple cider vinegar for 20 minutes. Strain the resulting liquid, add honey and simmer down until the mixture is thick and syrupy. The vinegar neutralizes the garlic taste, making it much more tolerable, yet preserving the antibiotic effect.

GINGER ROOT (*Zinziber officinale*)

nalé) — Ginger has a carminative effect, which means that it will help relieve digestive problems which result in gas formation. It is also a diaphoretic, used both as a tea and added to a soaking bath to stimulate sweating and reduce fevers. In cases of abdominal menstrual cramping, a ginger fomentation can be made. A fomentation is prepared by slicing 2-3 large roots into a half gallon of water and simmering in a covered pan for at least 30 minutes. A cotton cloth is then dipped in the mixture, wrung out (wear rubber gloves, it's hot!) and applied to the abdomen as hot as can be withstood. Two folded bath towels are placed on top to help maintain the heat of the fomentation as the therapy progresses. Internally, ¼ teaspoon of ginger or one dropperful of the fluid extract can be added to 1 cup of warm water to alleviate nausea/morning sickness/motion sickness and to aid digestion.

KELP (*Nereocystis leutkeana*) — The kelp family, which includes kombu, wakame, arame and hijiki, is known for its ability to combat the effects of radiation in the body. Radioactive strontium-90, one of the more prevalent sources of radiation, is stored in our bones, and contributes to long term diseases such as leukemia, bone cancer, Hodgkins disease, anemia, and decreased production of red and white blood cells. The sodium alginate found in the kelp family binds with the radioactive isotope in the gastrointestinal tract and forms an insoluble gel like salt called strontium alginate, which is safely excreted in the feces. (For more information on radiation detoxification, see *Fighting Radiation with Foods, Herbs and Vitamins*, by Steven Schechter, ND. Kelp is recommended as a daily addition to the diet)

ST. JOHN'S WORT (*Hypericum perforatum*) — The extract and oil are used externally for bruises, strains, sprains, contusions and wounds. The extract is used internally as an immune system stimulant, for retro-viral infections, as an expectorant and antibacterial. It speeds the healing of wounds and burns and aids the regeneration of damaged nerve tissue. It is used as an anti-depressant and to treat bedwetting and children's nightmares. It is also known as Klamath weed, a common pasture plant, and is found throughout the U.S.

VALERIAN ROOT (*Valeriana officinalis*)

ficinalis) — Valerian is classed as a nervine and sedative with mild pain relieving properties, which makes it a good candidate for stress, anxiety and restless insomnia. It has also been used for intestinal colic, menstrual cramps, migraine headache, and rheumatic pain. Although it smells like well used socks, the extract and tea are both recommended.

It is vitally important to properly identify the plant you are harvesting before you use it. Forest Service visitor centers carry plant identification books for their region, and the Petersen Field Guide series plus a range of medicinal plant handbooks are also sources of botanical identification. Most of these books can be found in local bookstores. It is wise to take classes or go with an experienced guide when you are in the early learning stages. Herbs are precious natural resources, and should be ecologically harvested. The following guidelines for harvesting help insure herb potency

Garlic bulbs and greens can be eaten raw at the onset of a cold or the flu.

and purity and help preserve the species for further enjoyment.

Medicinal herbs should be:

1) Gathered in the proper season. General rules are: Barks in the spring; leaves before the plant flowers; flowers on the first day of opening; roots are best in the fall (although they are sometimes harvested in spring, previous to aerial plant development).

2) Gathered in wild habitats where the plants naturally grow or should be organically grown according to certification standards established by the state in which they were harvested.

3) Harvested in an area free of chemical/industrial pollution of air, water and soil.

4) Gathered at least ¼ mile from any traveled roads, and at least 10 miles from any waste disposal or toxic dumping areas.

5) Protected from over-harvesting by leaving at least ¾ of the stand intact for reproduction and continuance of the species. If roots are dug, root crowns and seeds must be replanted to perpetuate the growth and proliferation of the plant. ●

Safe Gun Handling

(Continued from page 73)



Is this a good gun for home defense? Depends on your circumstances.

argument over which is better, revolver or auto, and what caliber. Most authorities on personal defense will recommend a good double action .38 Special revolver for home defense, as these are considered to have sufficient stopping power and penetration and they are simple to use. If I were only buying one gun for home defense and decided on a revolver, I'd buy a .357 Magnum revolver. All .357 Magnums will also fire .38 Special ammunition (but not vice versa) and this gives you the option of firing different types of .38 Special, including the hotter + P stuff, as well as .357 loads.

The disadvantages of revolvers include that they don't hold as many rounds, take more time to reload and lack much in the way of safety mechanisms. On the other hand, auto pistols can require more training to use them effectively and under stress are harder to use, but they can also provide more firepower and better accuracy.

I'll never forget one night when I was home alone and asleep in the middle of a dream. I heard a noise outside my bedroom window which was open to the screen (I'll never know if there was actually someone out there). I sat up in bed, still partly asleep and dream-

ing, and was convinced I saw a shadowy figure enter through the window and advance aggressively toward me. I jumped from the bed and grabbed my 1911A1 Government Model .45 ACP pistol just in time to thrust it into the stomach area of the shadowy figure now seemingly attacking me, and pull the trigger. Nothing happened. By this time more awake, I stepped back and flicked on the light to discover there was nothing in the room. I had a loaded magazine in the gun but no round in the chamber and the gun was not cocked. I felt stupid but relieved that I hadn't fired a shot into my dresser where I had been pointing the gun when I squeezed the trigger. Had I had a loaded revolver on my nightstand instead of the 1911A1 I would definitely have shot my dresser! On the other hand, had the imaginary intruder been real, he might have killed me before I could cock and fire my gun. Owning a gun is no *guarantee* of safety.

If you should have to fire your gun in your home or office, etc., what might happen? If you miss your target could the bullet go through a wall and hit your child? Your wife? Your brother-in-law? A co-worker? Try to think through what might occur and how you would react in such situations. This may be helpful should a real defensive situation arise someday.

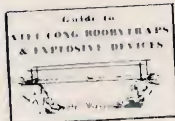
With these points I've tried to introduce the subject of gun safety to the uninitiated and to offer some concerns to those of us who already have guns. Perhaps the most important point I can make is that you need to be well versed in safe gun handling and to learn as much as you can about firearms and ammunition in general and your own in particular. There are lots of good books and courses available all over the country. Consult your gun stores, your police department and organizations like the National Rifle Association for more information. ●



Revolver or auto pistol? Each has advantages, disadvantages in different situations.

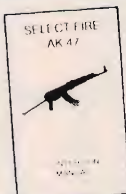
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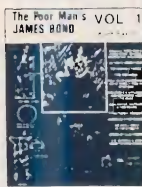
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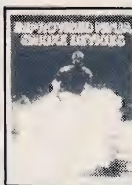
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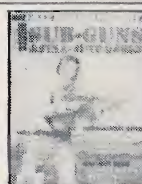
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